

Maclean's

Making Millions

Canada's bold software inventors conquer the world

Case studies of five hot firms

FISH WAR ON
THE WEST COAST



Corel's Michael Cowpland and wife Marilyn



78624 70001

Nokia keeps Cathy in the swing of things.



When she's not helping raise funds for her favorite charities, Cathy Johnson donates her time as a volunteer buyer for the North York General Hospital Gift Shop. She's an avid curler and golfer, and tries to spend as much time as possible in the cottage. On top of all that she's married and the mother of two children. Keeping track of Cathy's schedule is no easy task. Just ask her family and friends. But thanks to Cathy's Nokia cellular phone

they don't have to. All they have to do is remember her phone number.

Staying in touch isn't the only reason why Cathy chose Nokia cellular. She also appreciates Nokia's generous use of ergonomic design — think for the oversized display easy to use keypad, 50 location alphanumeric memory and simple menu commands that let her access any feature. Plus, there are a variety of accessories available, including, headphones for fax, in-car rapid chargers and long-life batteries.

Nokia cellular. Because, just like Cathy, we think staying in touch with your family and friends is a worthy cause too.



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Maclean's

CANADA'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

JULY 17, 1995 VOL. 105, NO. 29

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PHOTO BY DAVID WILSON

Making millions

24 Canadian entrepreneurs have carved out lucrative niche markets in the highly competitive global software business. And their innovative product lines and aggressive marketing campaigns have made them multimillionaires. But rather than resting on their laurels, most of them are already scanning the horizon for the next wave of technological opportunities.



PHOTO BY DAVID WILSON

West Coast fish war

12 Fresh from surfing the Spanish fleet over the fate of the Atlantic salmon, Fisheries Minister Bruce Tolka turns his fire on Alaskan salmoners—whom, he says, are endangering salmon stocks that swim through Alaska waters before returning to spawn in B.C. rivers. The Americans, however, may prove to be tough adversaries.

Bones of contention

38 As baby boomers move into middle and old age, the number of Canadians who suffer from osteoporosis is sure to rise. Recent research, however, has left doctors divided about how best to fight the degenerative bone disease.



PHOTO BY DAVID WILSON



When A Tree Falls

Only once in the 11-year history of the annual Maclean's year-end poll have Canadians rated the environment the most important issue facing the country. About 7,500 who predicted it would dominate the 1996. That was in 1988, when the scenario was boomers and a wave of storm-timber revoys had sparked concern about global warming. But the blues quickly went off the Green, and the repositioning, massive layoffs and soaring interest rates made jobs and debt the top concern in subsequent years of the decade. As the Mulroney years ebbed and the Liberals came to power, D'Orsay's so-called Green Pho turned to dust. The current of action as the environmental seemed to be bureaucratized and ecologists yearning around a great number of inconclusive interpretations and cautious declarations that were not worth the pulp they were printed on.

All the more surprising, then, that last week for British Columbia government announced a ban on clear-cut logging on the west coast of Vancouver Island. The decision was a major victory for environmentalists. At the same time, the action was based on more than 120 recommendations from an expert panel that spent 20 months study the thorny problem of balancing ecology and jobs. While the controversial and ugly clearing of old-growth areas will end, more costly and ecologically appealing selective logging will be allowed. The number of trees felled will be reduced, but likely so will the number of logging and mill jobs.

At the heart of the issue was international opposition to wholesale harvesting of old-growth forests. Clapout (sp-



Clapout Sound, a major victory for environmentalists

noticed CLACKWEED) embodies one of the world's few old-growth temperate rain forests, boasting towering 1,000-year-old stands of cedar, hemlock and fir wood. The companies were allowed to work in about two-thirds of the area, taking out about 7,500 truckloads of logs per year. In 1993, about 800 protesters were arrested for trying to block loggers. Then environmental groups, especially Greenpeace, mounted a telling global campaign against the forest companies. All over. The New York Times wrote a knows that it was renewing its logging agreement with MacMillan Bloedel, and Seafar Paper Co.'s British division cancelled a similar agreement with the forest products giant. Not surprising last week Macmillan said it was eager to cooperate in making the new pol-

icy of selective logging in Clapout work.

Does the B.C. decision herald a return of more acute concern about environmental matters? One government action does not keep a political trend. And undoubtedly there seems to be precious little evidence of a renewed passion about the environment. What the Clapout case does reveal is a variation on the theme of globalization. In this case, the international community of concern, prodded by environmentalists, said no to logging in an area that looks like a picture postcard. Canada's loggers of wood have now confronted the same fate in the western and the far flung, whose industries have run afoul of protesters around the world. If a tree falls in the forest, the sound reverberates through out the global village.

Robert Lepage

Maclean's

CANADIANA'S NEWSMAGAZINE

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Beneath the skin

I would like to affirm your national survey results that found a quiet, yet deep, passion for this country ("A quiet passion," Cover, July 1). At a 1984 Canada Day celebration in Mississauga, Ont., a group of us from the amateur amateur video production association interviewed passersby with our question: "What does Canada mean to you?" We were stunned at how strongly and willingly people responded with deep heartfelt appreciation for this country. What I personally learned echoes what you found—that just beneath that winter of Canadian reserve, there lies a deep love of country.

Mark Westland,
Ontario, Ont.

What a coincidence to write home from a camping trip to find this week's *Advertiser* devoted largely to Canada's national parks ("The crown jewels"). We had just spent four nights at Parc National du Parc, our copper island, and we would have loved to stay longer, but it cost a whopping \$20 per night (in comparison with \$20 to \$35 in provincial parks). And that's not all. The camping fee does not cover the \$5 per day parking cost at the park's other attractions. Camping would be the affordable family holiday, and if national parks were truly established for the people of Canada to use and enjoy, then perhaps Parks Canada should think twice before being the hand that feeds them.

Ronan Blair,
Dundas, Ont.

I found Rick Salutin's essay, "A plan for Canada?" lacking in positive solutions. I worked around the world before retiring in Canada five years ago, and I think the world



Canada Day celebration, deep, heartfelt appreciation for the country

problem in this country is that Canadians—including Salutin—want to have all the advantages of a high standard of living along with universal medicare, and a very generous unemployment insurance plan and old age pension. They do not understand that these things do not go together without working harder, longer and more strenuously.

Don J. van Wyk,
Nanaimo Bay, B.C.

turns, confirmed that a lazier response to our internationalism is possible. I respectfully suggest, however, that you should have put Hockey and Wenzelak on the cover and Bernstein and his wife somewhere in the middle of the magazine.

Christopher Read,
Halifax

You could have conducted this type of poll in my country, such as France, Great Britain or even the United States and got a similar result. It would have been interesting to have a few questions on unemployment and taxes.

Massimo Fagioli,
Perugia, Italy

Channelling horror

Given that the majority of the coverage of the Paul Bernardo trial is about grisly details with a public mystique, it was refreshing to come across your profiles of Bob Wenzel and Bob Wenzel Jr. ("What can we do? Where can we meet?" Cover, June 25). These two brothers, who will set up systems for channelling the complex emotions generated by hearing such facts into proactive fund-raising ges-

tings, will not be the only ones to profit. But the plonkette would not move. Our isolate raised questions. Had we observed all of the appropriate rituals? Or had the junior Edward prance master simply refused to be inducted to his own house to chat with a Troy Spangler?

D. G. Rose,
Edmonton, Alta.

I recall a time when I was eight or nine years old and had bought a large chocolate ice-cream cone. Before I tasted it, I left from my hands upside down on the roadway. No sooner had the here began to wed up in my eyes, than a man I had never seen before took pity on my plight and gave me another quarter. I will never forget him, nor of kindness, but I couldn't help but think, that if this had occurred today, I, like the young girl, would have been taught to mistrust the actions and intentions of any stranger, no matter how harmless. This is the tragedy of our children's world.

Jan Hansen,
Winnipeg, Ont.

I enjoyed your article on the 1980s, but must correct a small error ("Maclean's and the 1980s century"). You state that "no modico house was complete without a TV and a stereo." Stereophonic sound was not introduced until the very end of the decade, and only became popular in the 1980s. In the '70s, it was 8-track, hi-fi fidelity, sound that was the in thing.

Douglas Abel,
Fort McMurray, Alta.

Maclean's reserves certain letters for editing by space and clarity. Please supply some address and telephone number. Write Letters to the Editor, *Maclean's* magazine, 227 Bay St., Toronto, Ont. M5J 1A7. Fax: (416) 263-2720. E-mail: letters@mclean.com

behind this symbol of quality



is

Ann

Roberts

Quality Control Supervisor - Gay Lea Foods Co-operative, Winnipeg - Randolph, Manitoba

This symbol of quality identifies Canadian dairy products. And behind this symbol, there's also Ann Roberts. Having been a part of Gay Lea Foods for almost 18 years now, Ann ensures the overall quality and freshness of their dairy products. But she's certainly not the only one checking. In fact, the dairy industry has always complied with Canada's very high standards of quality, which helps ensure that our dairy products are as fresh and delicious as they can be.

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OPENING NOTES



Edmund Baffo, Alecia Perry, a tux and gown

Wearing his Hart on his sleeve

Big, tough Eric Lindros, the Philadelphia Flyers centre who was dubbed a superstar when he was only 14, deserved last week that those expectations have weighed heavily on his broad shoulders. The 22-year-old London Ont. native was all choked up when the Professional Hockey Writers' Association awarded him the Bill Dwyer trophy as the National Hockey League's most valuable player. Many in the Maple Leaf audience—which included orleans from other readers as well, including actor Matthew Perry from the hit sitcom *Friends* and model Kate Alcock, wife of former New York Ranger Ron Duguay—wondered if the league's awards ceremony in Toronto were surprised by the sentiment Lindros displayed as a player he is renowned for his toughness. But his acceptance

speech indicated that chowing in the park of his past had not been easy as he has often made it look. Coming out of junior hockey, he defied the nays, establishing by refusing to report to the Quebec Nordiques, the team that drafted him four years ago. And after a trade to Philadelphia, he endured two injury-plagued, losing seasons before he and the Flyers brawled back this year. "It wasn't the smoothest ride," Lindros said. "But it was a ride I'm glad I took." By wearing the Hart, which bears the names of such old-time hockey greats as Gordie Howe and Guy Lafleur, Lindros has set the standards that have long been expected of him. But he said that last week's honour does not represent his crowning achievement. "I have a desire," he said, "to get better off the line."

FINE PRINT

Summer is the perfect time for catching up on some good reading. Michael J. listed some notable Canadians what they have read and enjoyed lately.

Timothy Findley novelist
Recent readings: *Rogue*
Printers by John Livingstone,
Morning in the Bird House by
Margaret Atwood, *Classic How Much I Love You* by
B. McNaughton

Comments I've known
Lengsfeld for a long time. He
is one of the great realists
about the human presence on
the planet. He depicts us as living off-life-
time, but he does it with a lot of grace. He
can be read and understood. -Abwoof

book is an extraordinary, beautiful, very moving book of poetry as for *Glacier Now*. Much I Love You. I'm crazy about nibbles, and this wonderful kid's book features two, the toffee rabbit and the child. The whole book is enchanting. I saved my soul.

David Suzuki broadcaster and scientist
Recent reading: *Silicon Valley*
Second Thoughts on the Information
Highway by Clifford Stoll

Comments I think that this is a very important book. Don't get me wrong, I think that computer knowledge is important. But Stoll has provided an interesting look that confirms what I thought: that we have to be very careful about being too much about the information highway

EDMUND BAFFO, ALEICIA PERRY, A TUX AND GOWN

A forced march to the firing line?

Leave it been taught lately for the people who stand guard over the image of Canada's department of national defence. Until now it the troops would swallow Canadian soldiers in Somalia, the department's press office has been wagging its tongue at the Sun column and Peter Worthington, who condemned bureaucratic waste in the military in a column published in October, 1994. Last week, however, the Ottawa Press Council threw out the department's complaint against the column, saying columnists "have a right to criticise."

But the press council's response pales in comparison with some of the other challenges facing the defence department's press office. Many of these new foes for these jobs became of an internal 1993 study calling for a 25 per cent reduction in the military's public affairs budget of \$1.2 million. Public affairs has been one of the few growth areas in the military, with staff numbers doubling since 1980. In fact, traditional priorities had slowed to a point where using officers dead or the best career move was a lateral move into public affairs. And with so many wanting to make that move, the office has had its pick of the best and the brightest young officers, who hoped to lose their communications skills for work later in the corporate world. But the government's announced desire to strengthen a Canada's peacekeeping ability will soon force them to return to their public safety activities. "We can't believe it," said one officer, who requested anonymity. "This was the place to go and now it looks like most of us are going to get chopped." But DND spokesman Capt. Chris Lenney—whose own public affairs job may be among the positions that are threatened—denied the news. "It's only a study and no action will affect us before 1997." Waiting for the other boot to drop.



A revved-up visual ride into biking lore

There's a generation that's never art director Steve Mylakoff and his brother-in-law Robert Davidson, managing editor of *Mountain Bike Action*, Canada's best-known cycling magazine. The result is the recently published *Mountain Bike: The Road to the Machine*, by People and the Cult, a friendly division of the publishing arm that publishes the *Mountain Bike Action* book that celebrates long bike culture.

"It's a book of images, events, or bits, it's a bit of whatever," says Peter Mylakoff, 38, director of *Mountain Bike Action*, self-published with his brother-in-law, and the *Mountain Bike Action* book of the year. The book has sold more than 40,000 copies—four times the *Mountain Bike Action*—since it was first published in 1991. The crowd is made of mountain bikers, rockers, actors and folks in states was part of how widely the appeal of biking has spread. Mylakoff is not surprised. "In the married Tightens, people were buying Porsches," he says. "Now, Harley's are giving the mid-life crisis crowd that say, 'For those who are not yet ready to hit the road on the highway, *Mountain Bike Action* offers its own unusual status trip.'



Peter from
the book
Mountain Bike
Action: "Living
the mid-life
crisis crowd
that say 'so'."

PASSAGES

DOB: 1946; residence and family: south Sudbury, Ontario, 95, in her home in Montreal. For 40 years the wife of provincial Sergeant Major Ronald Bremner established an independent police with her lasting dedication to community and culture. When named an Officer in the Order of the British Empire in 1983, she said: "The leadership lies in our military commitment and character." The \$20,000 Sudbury Bremner Award for excellence in the arts is one of the richest in the country. Her three surviving children are Sergeant co-commander Robert and Charles, both engineers and pilot-in-command of the Canadian Forces Aerobatic Team. Her son, Michael, is an architect.

DOB: 1943; actress: Eva Gabor, 56, the reigning of the three Hungarian-born Gabor sisters who became *Sex and the City* celebrities in the 1950s of respiratory diseases and other infections, in a Los Angeles hospital. Gabor, known for a New York City socialite transplanted in a home in the popular 1950-1971 television series *Garden Party*, had also had an extensive movie and Broadway career. But, along with her older sister, Zsa Zsa, she was also famous for her responses "handsomely carrying five times. She had been sick since 1988.

DOB: 1946; former tennis star: Richard (Pete) Sampras, 37, considered one of the best players in the history of the game, of stomach cancer, at a Las Vegas hospital.

DOB: 1949; Toronto FBI 1 police officer: Edna MacPhail, 51, who was instrumental power of the province from 1985 to 1990, at a Charlottetown hospital.

WPHILLIPS Airing: A radio host connected terrorist Paul Rose, 51, from running for police of officer of Quebec, by Superior Court Justice Gaston Piché, in Montreal. Rose had appealed a 2001 decision by Quebec chief criminal officer Pierre-Claude Berton from running in last September's provincial election for the PQP because he had served a prison sentence of more than two years for his role as a member of Quebec's former minister Pierre Laporte during the 1970 Oct. October Crisis, was paroled in 2001.

DOB: 1946; *Wolfgang Jack*, 52, the renowned radio disc jockey who rode radio 'n' roll's popularity to fame in the early 1960s, at a heart attack, at his home in Behavoirs, N.C.

Looking for viewers

When the six new English-language specialty channels went on the air Jan. 1, hopes were high. Nearly two years earlier, 88 would-be broadcasters had applied to the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) for licenses

Street Legal on Showtime—anything past



BEST-SELLERS

FICTION

1. *The Bridge of Madison County*, Robert James Waller
2. *The Coldest Garden*, Steven Brill (D)
3. *Being Crystal*, Marsha Norman (D)
4. *When Elephants Weep*, Jeffery Mead and Susan McCorley
5. *The Biggs and the Bear*, Rosemary Alles
6. *Mars and Venus in the Bedroom*, John G. Reid
7. *The Path to Power*, Margaret Trudeau (D)
8. *Landscape and Memory*, Anne Sophie
9. *Mount, Mount*, Christopher Duff
10. *Shoeless Joe*, Carl Hiaasen (D)

1. *Prisoner of the Sun*

NONFICTION

1. *New Passages*, Gert Leddy (D)
2. *Prisoner of the Gods*, Graham Hancock (D)
3. *Being Crystal*, Marsha Norman (D)
4. *When Elephants Weep*, Jeffery Mead and Susan McCorley
5. *The Biggs and the Bear*, Rosemary Alles
6. *Mars and Venus in the Bedroom*, John G. Reid
7. *The Path to Power*, Margaret Trudeau (D)
8. *Landscape and Memory*, Anne Sophie
9. *Mount, Mount*, Christopher Duff
10. *Shoeless Joe*, Carl Hiaasen (D)

Compiled by Brian Bellmore



It's what you *can't* see in this photo that's most important to Amway.

Virtually every product seen above can be obtained through Amway - from the sunscreen and vitamins to the patio furniture and gas grill. The only thing from Amway you can't see is the money-back, **100% satisfaction** guarantee.

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IN AMERICAN VIEW



national pastime. Otherwise we would not care what Michael thinks about Jews, blacks, whites or anything else. Nor would any heed to Barbara Streissand on politics. Charles Barkley on the subject of race. Jane Fonda's only sin during the Vietnam War was sounding like a schoolgirl in the天涯海角 against the war. Stars, celebrities occasionally are politically naive. At the time they are just celebrities.

richard Jackson? Since being a child Jackson has devoted himself to the accumulation of great wealth. He lives in a mansion removed from the world. He may be a wise man, or he may not. But a student of the events that have shaped the 20th century? A man who can solve the racial riddles of America? A person deeply at touch with his time? Come on.

such people are available, of course. The May Angels, say of the novelist John Updike, as the educator and friend whose "Worsthough of State Dame" evoked, of the novelist Irakli Petrosyan, the Justice Lawyer, who chose the most honest of black Americans to sit with in the 1960s. There was a column by the name of Lewis Trace who "made a significant contribution, often in an amateurish way." In one of his most provocative columns, Lewis, now deceased, reported the "tupper" had arrived. By this he meant, Lewis had discovered that his son, a communist, had left it dead and deflated. If someone had ordered Lewis to resign, he would have told them to "get out now."

substance is missing from public discourse these days, that is the problem of the same time as the Jackson fire, her well-publicized episode occurred in a tragic suburban fire of Greenwich. Five high-achieving seniors were honored at graduation because they wrote an excellent message in the yearbook that said of seniors: "The seniors played the role of unity into a space of self-cherishment could something so awful happen at one place like Greenwich? What do we do wrong? Take a look a Grace Duff in Greenwich does it in terrible the way America does--by maintaining success, substance and always increase in importance as well. The lesson of tragicness

what is gained by sending Michael back to the studio or resuming the search for a new host—which in fact is what the school has done? Telecommunications rarely are as steady. Major Jackson intended to be a steady spokesman with his song book of the experience. Remember, this is the man who started a line by energizing his catch in a waste video. The search resumes? Let's say they were after cheap laughs in a mostly white community and got caught by their own shorts. The look could be commanding and a career without movies as television—and, Michael Jackson, a lengthy introduction by Leslie Uggams.

The trouble with celebrity worship

FRED BRUNING

*Decade
around
from
success
allow
mass*

everybody do me;
kick me, look me,
then I won't think you're ugly.

what happens? People feel that the guy is a scoundrel that he is an insensitive, that he has committed an unacceptable sexual behavior. As we all know, Jackson has had more than his share of sexual problems—from complaints that he was able to, to an unproven charge that he was with a 13-year-old boy he stayed night. So, being no saint, Jackson is to be given from his bold statement on categories of falsehoods.

...and the singer he didn't mean to offend anyone. He was denominating racism not

longing. Come on, gang, don't you get it?"
America did not get it. Chastened,
Jackson promised to hustle back to
studio and record a more acceptable
version of the song. They Didn't Give Alabam
men he is frustrated, no one will have any
right to complain about—except perhaps
a romantic fool who still thinks words
like "mama" and "daddy" are the

Discussing a series with Newcomer in New York

THE WEST COAST WAR

Canada's fisheries minister takes aim at Alaska's fleet

By CHRIS WOOD

Thus far there was no incriminating fishnet artfully draped in the background, nor any underscored Atlantic salmon baited out to demonstrate the perfidy of the enemy. Still, Brian Tobin's rhetoric last week had a similar ring to it as the feisty federal fisheries minister sat before a row of Canadians (but in Ottawa's northeast) across theater and—eventually at least—drew a line in the waves in defense of the national interest. The waves, on this occasion, were in the Pacific Ocean. And the national interest: the migratory schools of salmon that swim through a British Columbia river, returning to spawn in rivers in British Columbia, where they are the cornerstone of a \$1-billion industry. With the opening of the 1986 salmon season just two days away, Tobin said that Canada was prepared to move to the limit with U.S. officials in search of settlement for this year's catch. He put the blame squarely on "the narrowminded self-interest of the state of Alaska." Dethard Tobin, Alaska's scurvy "aggressor," Tobin added, with heavy emphasis. "This situation is not acceptable to the environment of Canada. Canada will respond. And all options are on the table."

The exact form of retaliation, Tobin continued, would be spelled out this week, after he visits British Columbia to consult industry and provincial officials. Tobin was likely to hear little during his trip to the West Coast to encourage restraint. "We want Tobin, if he has to take action, to take action," asserted B.C. fisheries minister David Zweigert. Added Dennis Brown, a spokesman for the United Fisheries and Allied Workers Union (UFAWU), which represents 5,800 B.C. fisheries employees: "We have to get tough because we have to either stand up for ourselves as a country, or we let it all." Still, it was equally plain that in the United States, Tobin was courting a fight with an adversary far different from the rusting fleets of Spanish and Portuguese trawlers which loitered in his high-profile, and much lauded, confrontation last March over the Grand Banks fishery. This time, neither Canada's crew nor its options are nearly so clear.

It is a case that hangs on the biology of salmon, the geography of the B.C. coast and a treaty that Canada and the United States signed in 1886. Like their Atlantic counterparts, Pacific salmon are born in inland rivers and migrate to the sea. They spend years there, growing fat and valuable before returning to the rivers of their birth to lay and fertilize



Tobin: This situation is not acceptable to the government. Canada will respond. And all options are on the table.

The eggs of a new generation of fish, after which the adults die, is a trait that highly predictable return trip that salmon are caught in their millions by fishers from Alaska, British Columbia and the lower U.S. states of Washington and Oregon. It is a geography, however, which gives the Alaskans a critical advantage over their rivals, with salmon returning to spawn in Canadian rivers first before the continental coast far to the north of their eventual destination, in the west of the Alaska

panhandle. As they swim south, the salmon run a gauntlet of Alaskan fishing nets long before they encounter any British Columbians.

That fact is recognized in the 1886 Canada-U.S. Pacific Salmon Treaty, which includes a provision intended to guarantee catches for each country "equivalent to the production of salmon originating in its waters." The trouble, according to Canadian experts, is that the Alaskans have taken advantage of their favorable geography to act catches that consistently exceed their share under the so-called "equity principle" of the treaty. This excess, Canadian ministers, amounts to in many as 6.5 million fish a year, worth nearly \$70 million. "In terms of the equity principle, we are being cheated," says Vancouver-based fisheries economist Pauline Coles, B.C. fisheries, whose grievances against the Alaskans long predate the 1985 pact, agrees. Indeed, Edgar Birth, a western fisheries based in Delta, 20 km south of Vancouver, contends, "It has only gotten worse since we signed the treaty."

The breaking point for Canada came, Tobin said last week, when Alaska would not agree to reduce its catch of chinook salmon below 200,000 fish. Although by the last plentiful of the major salmon species, the chinook are nonetheless big fishers. At up to 60 kg each, chinook are the largest salmon in the sea. That has made them the most highly prized target of sport fishermen willing to spend hundreds of dollars on guides and equipment, as well as in hours out of the river grain. The chinook are also the most vulnerable of the salmon species, with some estimates putting the stocks at merely 10 per cent of 1960 levels. Oregon University of British Columbia fisheries biologist Peter Paasonen, "It's time to bring this to a halt."

Paasonen is one of a number of scientists

who believe that chinook are in trouble

because of overfishing and habitat loss.

Paasonen, however, is not the only one

concerned about chinook stocks. Tobin, for

one, is equally worried about the future of

the chinook, and he is not alone. Tobin

is not alone in his concern about the

future of the chinook, and he is not alone

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Menker in his damaged basement: 'At first, I thought the whole house had exploded.'

A violent turf war

Biker gangs may be behind a Montreal bomb

The cache of living metal, 35 kg of forged steel and lead, piled Andre Menker aside a few minutes before 3 a.m. in the morning. It lay inside his house in the Montreal suburb of Lachaine, ripping a hole in the wall of his living-room wall. Then, it crunched through a television set, bounced off a sofa and finally tumbled to rest not more than a couple of feet from the bedroom where the Shymard truck driver and his wife, Micheline, lay sleeping. "At first, I heard a loud noise and we both got up," a still-shaken Menker said last week as he stood amid the debris scattered around the interior of his modest home. "At first, I thought the whole house had exploded. Now, I realize we're lucky to be alive."

Nobody was injured, but the quiet west-end suburb had apparently experienced another violent episode in a simmering turf war between rival Montreal motorcycle gangs that has claimed at least six lives since last fall. The explosion happened as the Montreal Police Department's bomb squad was trying to defuse a home-made device that police had found in a stolen car parked at a shopping centre. The bomb was

discovered by the department's anti-icing unit, created several months ago to monitor an escalating war for control of the city's illegal drug trade between two local biker gangs, the Rockers, a Hell's Angels affiliate, and the Rock Machine. For three weeks, members of the unit had kept watch on a van, stolen last January from McNeil University, that had been left in the shopping mall parking lot.

When they finally approached the van on



The refined machine gun: 'Enough to shoot a van.'

Monday night, they realized that it contained a deadly arsenal: 22 sticks of dynamite, 50 detonators, a 30-caliber semi-automatic M1 rifle, two 12-gauge shotgun shells, four from Coltr's automatic machine pistol and a 700-odd-gram heavy machine gun. The machine gun, capable of downing a low-flying aircraft, had a six-inch-long serrated tail bell and was bolted to a table top and clamped to the floor corners of the van's interior ready for use. "There was enough equipment inside that it's hard to start a war," says police Lt. Norman Gossard.

The van also held the explosive device, an adapted metal container packed with seven pounds of dynamite. But the Rock Machine's dismantling operation later prompted one of the specialists who had wheeled in a high-pressure jet of water at the device instead of defusing the bomb, an expert, the state said. The resulting blast demolished the 900-2000 robust, sheeted storefront windows in the mall and scattered flying metal in all directions—excluding the short but powerful Menker's living room, more than half a kilometre away, well beyond the area the police had evacuated.

By late last week, police had made no arrests in connection with the case, nor had they been able to trace any of the weapons found in the van. Officially, police spokesman refused to implicate either of the two warring biker gangs or the other. Unofficially, however, police sources speculated that the cache must likely to have been used in the gang's battle over control of the drug traffic in Montreal.

The entire after-hours working symbiosis in the biker world, last December, a 25-year-old Rock Machine member was killed when the van he was driving suddenly exploded in the southern Montreal suburb of Lachaine. In January, another unapologetic biker died after a black-wheeled van hit him as he was driving in Rosemont in Montreal's east end. In February, Montreal police found yet another stolen van packed with explosives in a garage and by the Hell's Angels. After police speculated publicly that the van was going to be used to attack the Rock Machine, a Hell's Angels hangout in Montreal's east end was firebombed in what was widely interpreted as a Rock Machine response. If those past incidents are any guide to what happened last week in Lachaine, McNeil's biker wars are far from over.

BARRY CAMERON/MONTREAL

A backroom victory

John Savage survives a leadership challenge

A s Sunday evening it was not all the same, the packed Halifax meeting hall buzzed with excitement last week as John Young, president of the Nova Scotia Liberal Party, accepted the sealed envelope from an associate with the small local firm of Harroch. Thirteen days earlier, provincial Liberals had cast their ballots on whether to let Nova Scotia physician John Savage stay on as party leader and premier. When Young opened the envelope last week and announced that Savage had survived the challenge that triggered both applause and raucous boos—underlining the deep rift the leadership issue has drawn within Nova Scotia's ruling party.

The man at the centre of the storm was still seeking to avoid accusations on the podium at the party's annual meeting. And in an interview an hour after a speech in which he made an impassioned plea for unity, Savage seemed amenable to the no-confidence campaign he had led as to the premier's job behind him. "This is a genuine expression of Liberal support," he said. "After all, people are huge enough to understand that a government that will do what it has to do is ill-equipped, however, to continue the fight."

In one sense, it was curious that Savage faced such a tepidly dissenting crowd. The Liberal held no seats in the provincial legislature, compared with eight for the Conservative party and three for the NDP. Moreover, both government parties are currently led by former Savage supporters who have been won by Rock Machine and in inability to deliver an anti-inflation campaign promises, including vows to cut the provincial deficit without raising taxes. Last year Savage led a revolt in his party. The now opposition government held it by using rockblocks as well as construction workers, reported by provincial legislation allowing non-union workers to operate before union members on Nova Scotia worksites. More than 2,000 unionists took out Liberal memberships and vowed to vote against Savage in a leadership review originally scheduled for last October, but postponed by the party to give the pro-Savage forces a chance to regroup.

Adding to Savage's woes was his govern-

ment's decision to try to abolish Nova Scotia's deeply ingrained patronage system. He refused to fire Conservative government workers and replace them with Liberals, who had been denied jobs during 13 years of Tory rule prior to Savage's election in 1985. "There is no question," says Jack Gibbons a Halifax

Source, that his government will now get on with the business of the province. In the past, though, it has not always drawn rave reviews. Wage rockblocks angered civil servants and last week drew the ire of the International Labour Organization, a United Nations agency, which offered to send a mission to Nova Scotia to improve the relationship between the government and its workers. A decision to allow casinos to open in Halifax and Sydney drew sharp criticism from police chiefs, churchmen and others. Another recent move, a plan to decision to site tolls on a new section of highway being built in the Westward Valley in northeastern Nova Scotia. The province lost \$20 million in federal funding for the project after federal Supply and Services Minister David Dingwall diverted the money to build a road in his Cape Breton riding.

For all of that, Savage says the government has been doing a better job lately of selling its policies. As recent, he says, includes a balanced operating budget for 1989-1990, reforming health and education and reducing political patronage. But, he added, cuts of \$200 million in federal transfer payments over 1986 and 1987 mean the government must find new ways to save money without cutting services. "We are Liberals," he said, "and we want hard on the people's welfare."

Despite those brave words, the prospect of being defeated by angry constituents and wordy workers for patronage jobs deeply shook the premier, and the party. "We would have been a laughingstock if the documents had been declared Gull's Gull," the leadership campaign served a good purpose for the party—providing a dry run for the next election, which will probably be called in 1989. By then, Savage will be facing new and more certain challenges: they are now leaders—and perhaps an even tougher battle to hold on to his job.

JOHN DEMONT/MIAMI



Savage: the undisclosed vote was 'a genuine expression of Liberal support'



Brutal criminals, or victims?

What the jury heard was this: Vancouver physician Selwyn Morrison had supplied drugs and advice to an associate named Scott Farquhar, so that Farquhar could rob and kill nightclubs owner Joseph Milgaard in October, 1982. Most of the story came from Farquhar himself, corroborated by Morrison's step-daughter, Denise Langevin on his strength, the jury sent Morrison to prison for life in 1984. He will not be eligible for parole until 2009.

What the jury did not hear was that Farquhar had lied to police witness earlier, in a statement never introduced in court. "I'm just telling nothing but lies for you." Nor did the jury know that Denise Langevin was an active cocaine addict. In an affidavit dated March 28, 1992 she admitted that she had used the drug daily during her stepfather's trial and lied to her testimony about his involvement in the murder. According to another affidavit, sworn by Denise's half-brother, Kevin Morrison in June, 1994, Denise told her family that, after the trial, she received some closure from one of the detectives who had the case against her. Still, despite those and other troubling disclosures, Morrison, who has always maintained his innocence, remains in custody at a minimum security prison in Mission, B.C., 60 km

Critics say Ottawa is slow to review claims of wrongful convictions

east of Vancouver, more than three years after he first asked then-prime minister Kim Campbell to allow him a new trial. Says the stocky, barrel-chested grandmother, now 61, and suffering from angina at 70: "I just long I live long enough to see it happen."

Morrison's hope may be misplaced. The provision under which he has asked for a new trial, Section 690 of the Criminal Code, has become notorious among defence lawyers and courts alike for working with glacial slowness and doubtful expediency. Calls for reform of the section date from 1990. A commission of inquiry into the wrongful conviction and 11-year imprisonment of Nova Scotian Donald Marshall urged then that inquiries under Section 690 be taken out of the hands of the federal justice department and entrusted to an independent agency. But despite several high-profile wrongful conviction cases in the years since, and a backlog of pending applications under the existing rules, Ottawa's response has been slow as its review of Marshall's conviction. Justice Minister Allan Blakie conceded in the House of Commons last October that "the 690 process can be improved" but officials in his department acknowledge that little has changed.

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Morrison, seeking three years for a federal review

order a new trial for anyone convicted of an indictable offence, or to refer the case to an appeal court. About 50 applicants a year invoke the section to seek new trials for various criminal offences, from arson to murder. Since the Marshall case, its most prominent use was in 1991 when Campbell tried to overturn the 28-year old murder conviction of Saskatchewan's Don Milgaard to the Supreme Court of Canada for an appeal. It had taken Milgaard almost three years to win approval of his request. In April, 2002, the court ordered that Milgaard was entitled to a new trial. He was freed, and the Saskatchewan government has decided not to try him a second time.

The length of Milgaard's review process was not unusual. Most applicants under Section 690 have, in Toronto lawyer Daniel Brody's estimate, put a year or "a healthy amount of time" on the clock. A key source of the lengthy trials of former RCMP undercover narcotics agent Patrick Kelly in 1998, Tates testified that she had seen the way ex-constable Dennis Milne, his wife, Jeanette, of the balcony of the 12th floor Toronto condominium. Four years of friendly cross-examination. Finally, Kelly was sentenced to life imprisonment without eligibility for parole for 95 years. But in December, 2002, Tates repeated, asserting an affidavit that "I did not watch Patrick Kelly drop Jeanette from their balcony."

In a second sworn statement, which she gave the following March, Tates declared that her initial testimony "was a lie" which she had told after repeated interviews with police investigators and her lawyer. But despite the staggering reversal of Tates' account—and her own acknowledgement that she could face perjury charges for her initial testimony—federal investigators waited fully 15 months, until last May, to interview the witness themselves. At the same time, according to Kelly's Toronto-based lawyer, Clayton Ruby, federal officials have dragged their feet by refusing repeated demands to release critical documents supporting Kelly's conviction.

While such cases raise questions of a receding witness's credibility, Brody points out that the doubts must apply as much to their original testimony as to their new version. At the same time, he adds, it is unusual for a person who has lied to want to come forward eventually. "Witnesses are just through the wringer, there are pressures put on them," he said. "If they have lied, they have to live with their conscience."

As for delays in the review process, police department officials deny that they are either intentional or the result of a lack of any sense of urgency in their part. Instead, Eugene Williams, senior counsel to the Criminal Conviction Review Group in Brody's department, says delays often result from the tardiness of applicants themselves in supplying needed information. "It is unfortunate," Williams told Maclean's, "but sometimes it happens." On the other hand, he cited the case of Wilson Nepon, an Alberta Cree whose 1987 conviction for second-degree murder was suspended when a key witness removed a statement three years later. "He [Wilson] made an application in 1991 and when finally his case was referred back to the Court of Appeal, the court said 'no' and it ultimately decided that he deserved a new trial." The whole process took less than six months.

Delays aside, critics also accuse federal officials of freezing the

prosecutor's point of view in their reexamination of old cases. "They come in with a predisposition to uphold the conviction," asserts Jeanne Loder, a Toronto lawyer who in 1993 helped found the Association in Defence of the Wrongly Convicted, an organization which supports inmates seeking new trials. Adds Loder: "It is the inmate having to go to the court to help. A leading concern of the previous official does, says Milgaard's lawyer, local-based lawyer, Herb Walsh, was the manner in which federal officials handled his case in that trial. "The review was very one-sided. Which officials were more inclined to decide our position. With a witness that was being held captive, everything was done to discredit him. With a witness that added to the narrative, everything was done to favor them."

Five years after the Marshall commission called for reforms of the sector, other voices are now raising the same cry. On June 8, NDP MP-Chief Assembly, who represents Milgaard's former home town of Saskatchewan, tabled a private member's bill in the Commons which would provide for a new Commission of Review Committees to examine applications under Section 690. Says Assembly: "Our system is not perfect. People are going to be reasonably convicted. My proposal would help ensure that we have a system that connects the guilty but only the guilty."

The thrust, at least, of Assembly's proposal has won support among critics of the existing law. Observers Michael Burns, The Nova Scotia-based author of a 1998 book on Marshall and of another, to be released this fall, on Kelly, "The whole lesson of the Marshall law is that when you do a judicial review of a case, it cannot be by people who have any kind of vested interest in the outcome. We have to follow the advice of the Marshall commission and take it out of the hands of the justice department." Toronto's Ruby adds that the present system "is a blot on the landscape. The minister should get it out of how to an independent body as soon as possible."

The Criminal Conviction Review Group's Williams counters, however, that accusations of vested interest are generally misplaced. "The vast majority, 99.9 per cent of our cases," he says, are applications for a review by people who were arrested in provincial, not federal, courts. "It is not our work that we review," he says. "It is the work of the attorney general for Ontario, perhaps, or British Columbia." Still, another son of Sidney Morrison's daughter, patience with the justice system is running out. For three years, Tates Morrison, 52, has waited to see her father's release in a rare concession, the Crown's Conviction Review Group in Brody's department, which did not succeed in its Ottawa office last month and she says, assured her that he would personally review her father's file. But Blakie did not accept Tates Morrison's request that her aging father be set free, at the eleventh hour, notwithstanding, if necessary, as officials complete their review of his case. Disappointed, Tates Morrison has accelerated her public campaign, showing up at gatherings attended by Brody's colleagues to press her demand. While that approach is hardly one of the process, as the evidence of Marshall and Milgaard it may just prove more effective than the official channels.

CHRIS WOOD in Vancouver with LUXE FISHER in Ottawa



Williams says his review of the Marshall case was "a blot on the landscape."

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CANADA

Chrétien's dilemma



BACKSTAGE OTTAWA

BY ANTHONY WILSON-SMITH

The duty of the Opposition. John Diefenbaker once said, "It is to turn out the government." But Canadian politics being what it is, even that simple goal is open to dispute. For example, the two principal Opposition parties in the House of Commons, the Bloc Québécois and Reform, would surely regard Diefenbaker's goal as either misguided or too modest. The Bloc has no interest in toppling the government. Its goal is to turn Quebec out of Canada. Reform, on the other hand, wants to turn out the government, but is even more interested in turning the whole process of government on its head by drastically shrinking and reshaping it.

For most of the Liberals' first 21 months in office, that lack of party purpose among the Opposition has worked in the government's favor. Every time the Bloc takes hold over equity, it reminds Canadians outside the province of the fight that Jean Chrétien chose to keep the country together. Every time Preston Manning takes charge of Quebec, he makes Chrétien's approach to Quebec look moderate by comparison. With political enemies like this, who needs friends?

How sad, then, for the Liberals that this is likely to be their last such summer of contentment. Both Reform and the Bloc are in the process of fundamentally retooling the way they think, and function. Already, some of the results are evident. By this late next year, the Liberals will be facing a fairly different Opposition. That may not be welcome news for the government.

Began with Reform. The party's sharply improved performance in the House of Commons elections, alongside the Liberals' steady growth in Quebec, is the most striking element of the last season. While Liberal MPs resisted in making sounds like squabbling children and otherwise embarrassing themselves, Reform MPs were sharp and precise in their recent attacks on game-prize Heritage Minister Michel Drapey. Overall, their criticisms of the government have become better thought-out and focused. Several interestingly: Jim Flaherty, Debrah Grey, Randy White and Jim Brown—are now among the most effective performers in the

Commons. More to the point, Reform is showing some signs of starting to think like a truly national party that understands that the Commons—for all its faults—deserves respect as the only body in the country where all Canadians are democratically represented. Until recently, Reformers and representatives of official Ottawa breveted another with the barely disguised contempt of the jaded and the jaundiced. It was not always clear what was which. Much of the credit for the party's broadened national focus belongs to Reform's most cerebral MP, Stephen Harper, who—although both man and wife the members of it—will be the replacement Preston Manning as party leader. Neither the Liberals nor the Conservatives like to think about that.

The Bloc, meanwhile, is in decline. The public realization of Lance Bouthéard that the Bloc will now focus only on sovereignty ends the point-blank that the Bloc can't care what Canadians in other provinces think. And quite understandably, but most notably, Bouthéard has lacked his previous rhetorical fire and sense of conviction since his brush with death last December and subsequent leg amputation. He seems preoccupied with personal concerns and is spending this month with his immediate family and friends in California, far from politics. Without him, the Bloc has no effective vision or voice. By next summer, the referendum should be a dud of the past. If Quebecers vote Yes, the Bloc will remain more than ever before. But if they vote No, the Bloc will not matter at all. And Bouthéard's political future, if he wants one, will be in Quebec, not Ottawa.

A majority that would change the face of the country irreversibly, but even a No vote will radically alter politics for the next decade, in ways most Canadians have yet to imagine. Despite the old maxim, change, for a political party in power, is ultimately not so good as a rest. How well it would be for complacent Liberals if they could no longer count on the subsidies between their enemies to prop up their own popularity. And how good that would be for the country—including the most effective performers in the

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MIRAMICHI FISH FIGHT

Federal fisheries officers and about 100 natives, most of them Mi'kmaq, were at a tense stand-off along a designated no-fishing zone of the Miramichi River in southern New Brunswick. The officers seized three gill nets and string their own net across the river to prevent fish from reaching the natives, who claim the right to fish whenever they want.

SALINAS IN CANADA

The immigration department confirmed that former Mexican president Carlos Salinas de Gortari entered Canada in mid-June or a six-month tourist visa. Salinas left Mexico for Boston in March after his brother, Raul, was charged with murdering a high-ranking member of the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party.

A WESTRAY APPEAL

Crown attorneys in Nova Scotia served notice that they are seeking a second chance to prosecute two more officials on criminal charges arising from a 1989 explosion at the Westray coal mine that killed 26 men. An earlier trial was halted when the judge ruled that prosecution had not shown the relevance of all their evidence.

CF-8 PILOT DIES

A Canadian air force pilot, Capt. Richard Bailey, 36, died when his CF-18 crashed in the bush of northeastern Saskatchewan during combat practice. Previous CF-18s have crashed, killing nine pilots, since the Canadian military started taking delivery of 138 of the fighter planes in 1982.

PAYOUT TIME

Following a seven-month investigation by the National Sciences and Engineering Research Council, a major federal funding agency, Montreal's Concordia University will have to return at least \$115,500 in grant money used for projects not specifically approved beforehand or not permitted under specific rules. The council's study follows a 1984 financial audit of the university's engineering department, which found a 20-year pattern of money being put to unauthorized use. The audit emphasized that no evidence was found of a professor fraudulently using grant money for her benefit.

A LONG-AWAITED REWARD

In a widely expected move, Prime Minister Jean Chrétien announced a former Member of Parliament, David Berger, as ambassador to Israel. Berger gave up his seat in December to make way for Lucienne Robillard, now liberal minister and a key federal strategist on Quebec matters.

Canada NOTES



A SUMMER MAELSTROM: Abandoned cars sit in a lake of mud and water in Rhineland after a fierce summer storm left lawns and streets looking like a winter tableau. Southeastern sections of the city were hammered by flood, and nearly four inches of rain fell in less than an hour. The city's water-treatment plants overflows, resulting in thousands of gallons of raw sewage pouring into the North Saskatchewan River. A similar holocaust hit northeast Calgary, washing out roads and stranding people in their cars until help could arrive.

Tackling a medical mystery

Every day, billions of cells perish in a process called apoptosis, as the human body replaces aging tissue. In recent years, scientists have been investigating apoptosis in the hope of finding out how the process works, and why it goes out of hand in some diseases—or, in the case of proliferating cancer cells, ceases to take place...and work, in an effort to make it stop. In the British scientific journal *Nature*, Montreal cell biologist Donald McDonagh reported the discovery of an enzyme that plays a key role in determining whether cells live or die. McDonagh, a research fellow at the MRC's Frost Centre for Therapeutic Research in Kelowna, Que., who leads a team of Canadian and American researchers, wrote that the enzyme, apoptosis, apparently works by splitting another enzyme, called PAP-1, which is responsible for deactivating and killing to repair genetic material in the nucleus of most cells. The researchers speculated that if

apoptosis becomes overly active, too many cells may die—as happens in such neurodegenerative diseases as Alzheimer's and Huntington's.

A lack of apoptosis may have the opposite effect, spawning the runaway replication of cells that cancer causes.

The finding could pave the way for the development of drugs that are capable of controlling the enzyme's activities—and its potentially deadly effects on the human body. Doing that, said Tony Park-Hutchinson, MRC's PAP-1's co-principal investigator of research, "will require striking a delicate balance—if you inhibit the enzyme to prevent one disease, will you cause another?" PAP-1's co-principal investigator, Linda Peacock, of Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children, "This kind of thing is what a lot of people have been looking for. It could be the next frontier of disease therapy."

WINNING A MAJOR GAMBLE

Britain's prime minister passes a leadership test

Whout question, it was the biggest gamble of John Major's 18-year political career. Facing criticism from within his own party over his European policy, and mocked for being the most Labour Party at public opinion polls, the British prime minister shocked the nation by resigning as Conservative leader on June 22. Considering that his budding political machine had made major "hail to the chief" Major claimed his decision to "put up or shut up" and thereby launch a snap leadership race last week in London's Westminster Palace, hours in the British House of Parliament, Tony Blair suddenly shifted into a Conservative mode to determine their prime minister's fate. And when their votes were removed from a black ballot box wrapped in blue ribbon, it was clear that, in the short term at least, Major's era had paid off. His defeated sole challenger, former secretary of state for Wales John Redwood, by a margin of more than two to one—318 votes to 89, with 22 abstentions or sealed ballot—defying widespread predictions that he had signed his own political death warrant by putting his leadership to the test. Standing on the steps of his official residence, 10 Downing Street, a triumphant Major claimed that his victory had "put to rest any question and any speculation about the leadership of the Conservative Party up to and beyond the next general election." The prime minister also appealed to Tory MPs to put off their public bickering behind them. "The time for division is over," he said.

Major—who came down behind to succeed Margaret Thatcher as Conservative Party leader and prime minister in 1990—proved yet again that his political skills can not be underestimated. But the 57-year-old son of a sometime circus performer still has to walk a political tightrope—while juggling several conflicting interests. First, he must try to keep deep wounds within his party and across rightwing "Tory Remonstrants" that his efforts to forge closer ties with the European Union did not amount to a sellout of British interests. He also needs to galvanize public to regain the confidence of a public mired in political infighting. If he succeeds in holding on to power in Britain's next



Major and wife Norma after the vote: a possible political restoration

general election, which must be called no later than May 1997.

For the past two years, surveys have consistently shown that Major is the most unpopular prime minister since political polling began in 1968 after the Second World War. And his Conservatives currently lag behind the opposition Labour Party, led by 57-year-old Tony Blair, by about 30 points. "The broken line is that the Conservatives will lose under Major, and I think they know it," said University of Essex political analyst David Sanders after last week's vote. "The question is by how much."

During the leadership challenge, former Tory finance minister Norman Lamont predicted the worst. He warned that Britain's Tories would share the fate of Canada's Conservatives—who lost all but two seats in the last federal election—unless they found the will to dump their unpopular leader. But Lamont, the Conservative Party is facing a steep decline—a Canadian-style defeat at the polls.

Given the volatility of Western electorates, Major could just as easily enjoy a political resurgence. But Labour Party strategists last week could hardly contain their glee over the Tory infighting. For years strengthening Major, they contended, the leadership challenge had underscored his weaknesses. Blair, a new-style Labourite who has abandoned talk of avante-garde redistribution and state ownership in favor of a "dynamic market economy," crowed that the Tories had "spared the lid with the leadership election, peers itself and were suddenly horrified to see the lid shot again."

Blair also emphasized that a third of the 309 voting Tory MPs—who had a narrow, one-seat majority in the Commons—had failed to back the prime minister. "Sed Blair," he said, "has been thick with reason and poison, and I believe what [Major] rolled up with is not just Conservative Party but two and those divisions are utterly unacceptable."



Major, 50-plus feed

Others, however, said that last week's result would likely help the government. Ivor Crewe, a professor of government studies at Essex University, says Major may ultimately prove capable of uniting his party (vertically) and of "bouncing back in popularity." "No longer can it be said that he's a strong or that he's indecisive," said Crewe. "He's shown a certain amount of courage. I think there will be a surge in the polls for the Conservatives which he can build on and exploit." He added: "What Major has done is give himself a three- or four-month opportunity to revive the fortunes of the party and impose his own authority."

And the prime minister wasted little time in trying to do just that. The day after his leadership victory, he began summing up his successes in Downing Street for the most chronic "rebuilder" of his old seat since he assumed office years ago. In a clear attempt to consolidate his hold on power, Major rewarded several key Tories who had assisted him in his re-election bid. Among them: Michael Heseltine, who has been widely expected to enter the mix in the event Major fails to garner enough support in the first round of voting. The prime minister named Heseltine his former trade secretary, deputy prime minister with responsibility for formulating policy and helping to sell it to voters before the next general election. The popular Glynis Jones, who lost the Tory leadership to Major in 1986, has made no secret in his post of his burning desire in one day to prime minister.

Also rewarded was 48-year-old Scottish lawyer Malcolm Rifkind, who replaced retiring Douglas Hurd as foreign secretary. Michael Portillo, a leading figure among the Conservative right wing, was put in charge of defense, a politically challenging post from which he will find it difficult to wade through political wrangling with the prime minister. But the biggest winner was Major's leadership challenger Redwood, the spokesman for supporters of closer integration of the European Union, who was not restored to the cabinet he left to fight his leader. Still, the vast majority of the anti-Major MPs within the Conservative ranks, he

still tried to get on a show of political legitimacy, saying that Major had won and square under the rules.

But many observers—especially diehards at the suddenly conservative party—say The Times' and Financial Times of London believe that Major's cabinet shuffle "will not repair the damage done to the Tory cause." The Conservative paper's political editor, "The Commentator," put it this way: "The Conservative party has lost its soul, but little more." The right-wing *Today* newspaper, Britain's longest-running daily newspaper, echoed that analysis. "Four days after the Conservative election, 'the Christians' is still and the day after the leadership contest... And the way they're going they'll gain a cleaned good standing." It had not the first time that the British press had written Major off, however. Many predicted that he would be defeated by then-labour leader Neil Kinnock in 1983's general election. When Major actually held his party to its fourth consecutive parliamentary majority.

Still, as so many British voices are concerned, British voters are concerned. "If the Conservatives do well in the next election, they should have ditched Major," said Miles Baderhouse, a conservative writer standing opposite the clock tower that houses Big Ben, after the vote. "They should have put Newlove in."

Similarly, at the Albert Hall, owner Jill Wood and her husband, Roger, have pulled traditional British attire for members of the Conservative for seven years. "We're half a Conservative, and that the Tories, who have ruled uninterrupted for 15 years, need to be taught a lesson for all the controversy

these divisions have caused." "I think they have been in power too long," she said. "They've got to lose the next election because people are so fed up with them." She welcomed the possibility of a Labour Party victory, saying it "would allow the Conservatives to be rebuilt. After that, I believe, Labour would prove that it was soft to govern—and voters would welcome the Tories back with open arms."

While the leadership campaign exposed some raw nerves within the party, it was the issue of European integration that proved most divisive. Under 1985's Maastricht treaty, member nations of the European Union committed themselves to developing a common currency by 1999. Britain, however, insisted the right to opt out of the plan. Many Tories, Redwood included, fully oppose the concept of a single European currency. Major, on the other hand, has adopted a more flexible stance, saying that though he feels full economic integration with Europe is unlikely, Britain should not stifle the idea or be forced, "but then again at that time, the prime minister said, would undermine the country's ability to enhance future European economic policy."

Such appeals to a middle ground, critics charge, are exactly what got Major into his current predicament. Voters, they argue, simply do not know where the prime minister stands. They may be right. At the Chamber of Commerce dinner on Wednesday last week, the staff was barely prepared made-to-order sandwiches, said to tourists and out-of-towners. "I think Major's done good things for the country," said manager Robbie Barnes. But when asked by a visitor exactly what "good things" the prime minister has done, only an embarrassed laugh and a shrug of the shoulders followed. With London bookmakers saying that Labour remains the odds-on favorite at 3 to 7 to win the next election, Major will be under intense pressure to get his message out more clearly in the months ahead.

SCOTT STEPHEN with ALLAN DOW in London

Shaky freedoms

The U.S. Supreme Court challenges liberalism

For the American Hindus in suburban media and shaven heads challenging up Independence Day journals to the Washington Mall last week, their right to preach universal love—and sell T-shirts bearing that message—wasn't on as clearly in U.S. law as it is in the cosmic consciousness of their Black Krishna movement. They had raised their temporary veil of marketplace arms by federal permit and the authority of the U.S. Constitution for freedom of speech including "the free exercise" of religion. Other store owners relied on the same right in selling shirtlessing T-shirts along the Mall's 20-block stretch of peddlers that celebrates the nation's heroes or monuments and its rebirth in the galleries of the Smithsonian Institution. But alongside the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum on July 4 stood rows of trash tables empty of their usual stacks of memento T-shirts. Park police closed them down on the eve of Independence Day, alighting university commercialism.

"The real way was taking on a free-market atmosphere," said a National Park Service spokesman emphasizing that the agency is drawing a new line between permissible merchandise for "a cause" and prohibited selling for private profit. But for a shutdown vendor who gave his name only as Leon, that was unfairly favors hawkers who "iron stomachs are their T-shirts in love that" or "protest that." "The setup, he says, discriminates against the right to make a living. The legal spot on the Mall may be too small ever to rise above the local courts now at tempting to resolve it. But the case recipients, in miniature, a wider ferment over fundamental rights and freedoms. A recent series of decisions in the U.S. Supreme Court, along with inaction in Congress, reflect and encourage a conservative shift in America's attitudes on speech and religious rights as well as on international and interstate relations.

In a rash of judgments before its summer recess, the nine-member court—commanded by a bare majority—challenged longstanding and liberal constitutional conventions. Republican apathy applied the top judiciary for proving to be "a most activist, conservative

REPORT FROM WASHINGTON

BY CARL MCLELLAN

court," in the description of Erwin Chemerinsky, an analyst at the University of Southern California Law Center in Los Angeles. But an assessment published by the Washington-based American Civil Liberties Union notes that the court, by restraining onerous laws and favoring states' rights over



Leon claiming unconstitutional economic discrimination

federal authority, reflects the mood of the nation rather than "altering the country's basic moral views."

Two court verdicts in June, all decided by the same vote to let stand, undercut civil rights policies adopted by Congress and the court since the 1950s in remedy racial discrimination. It ruled on 30-year-old affirmative action measures designed in Washington to enhance the choices of races; minorities and women in business unless those measures are narrowly focused to nor-

rect historical bias and raise a compelling government interest. That rendered a May decision that cut off a Maryland scholarship program for blacks on the ground that it discriminated against whites.

The court's five-judge majority also ordered a ban to a federally funded anti-pregnancy program. Millions schools, leaving it to the states to do. Then, it upheld civil protection rights against federal schemes that favored 4 congressional voting districts, mainly in the South, in order to create black-majority electorates. The plan created 18 such districts in 1982, already doubling black membership in Congress. Those decisions paralleled federal and state political campaigns to dismantle an array of affirmative action programs.

In other actions, the court gained power from fundamentalist Christian leaders by invaliding the free-speech rights of religious groups—even when that quarrency conflicts with another constitutional convention requiring government to keep its distance from established religion. In these cases, the state-run University of Virginia and the government of Ohio each had required the prevailing standard separating church and state in withholding support for the expression of Christian ideas. In Virginia, university authorities refused to subside a campus Christian magazine, while giving grants to nonreligious journals. In Ohio, the state government required the Ku Klux Klan to raise a wooden cross beside a Christian tree and a Buddhist Jataki mandorla outside the capital in Columbus.

Both actions were written as restraining speech, ruled court majorities, peaked with native Iraqis in an attempt to root Kurdish rebels. Turkey accuses the rebels of waging a separated campaign from across the border. In Chechnya, Iraq's foreign ministry accuses the invasion as a "regional violation of leap sovereignty."

CANADA URGES MINE BAN

At a U.N. conference in Geneva on the use of land mines, Canadian government representatives and New Zealand called for a ban on the devices. Each year, land mines kill or maim an estimated 30,000 people, 30 per cent of whom are children

HAPPINESS POLL

A Gallup poll in 15 countries found that Hungary—where 71 per cent of citizens said they were discontented with their lives—is the unhappiest of the lot. London, meanwhile, were the happiest people, with a discontent rate of only five per cent. They were followed by Germans and Canadians, with discontent ratings of 18 per cent and 11 per cent respectively.

JAPANESE GAS ATTACKS

Japanese security officials went on high alert after a new series of attempted terrorist attacks in Tokyo—包括 the use of cyanide-odiferous devices in public washrooms in two subway stations. Government officials believe members of Aum Shinrikyo, or Supreme Truth Sect, may have been behind the incidents. Police have accused the sect of a March nerve-gas attack in the Japanese capital that killed 11 people and sickened 5,000 others.

ULSTER UNREST

Violence erupted in Northern Ireland after British issued a soldier's order of march during a Catholic funeral in 1996. Outraged Catholics rioted, looted security posts and set vehicles ablaze. Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams, who heads the Irish Republican Army's political wing, appealed for calm and urged all-party talks to revive the stalled peace process.

DOWN TO EARTH

The space shuttle Atlantis landed at Florida's Kennedy Space Center with an eight-member crew that included three men who had orbited the Earth for 115 days aboard the Russian space station Mir. The two Russians and one American were picked up by Atlantis when it docked with Mir on June 26.

TURKEY ATTACKS KURDS

Turkish troops backed by planes and helicopters, peaked with native Iraqis in an attempt to root Kurdish rebels. Turkey accuses the rebels of waging a separated campaign from across the border. In Chechnya, Iraq's foreign ministry accuses the invasion as a "regional violation of leap sovereignty."

Chechnya stalemate

In a cabinet shuffle prompted by the mass in Chechnya, Russia's President Boris Yeltsin promoted Col.-Gen. Anatoly Krikun, commander of Russian forces trying to hold the long-suffering southern region, to be his new interior minister. While most observers expected large that Krikun would support the Chechen's apparent desire for peace, still the Chechen's were seen his appointment as detrimental to attempts to forge a permanent ceasefire in the region—where 40,000 Russian troops were sent last December to put down a three-year-old independence drive.

Meanwhile, Russian government officials continued to insist that the world not grant independence to Chechnya—one of the rebels' key demands. And its peace talks re-opened in the Chechen capital of Grozny, Chechen negotiators finally agreed to a decree issued by Yeltsin allowing for a permanent

World NOTES



MIDDLE EAST PROGRESS: In the occupied West Bank town of Ramallah, Arab women march past a burning barricade calling for the release of as many as 8,000 Palestinians being held in Israeli jails. Last week, in what Palestinian leader Yasir Arafat termed a breakthrough, he and Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres reached an interim agreement that they said would pave the way for signing an accord on full Palestinian self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza Strip on July 16.

near armed Russian presence in the region. Although the president later softened his stance, at week's end the talks broke down as each side accused the other of violating a fragile truce in the region.

Prosecution rests

After 5½ months of testimony from 58 witnesses and the introduction of nearly 500 pieces of evidence, the prosecution in the double-murder trial of O.J. Simpson rested its case. Over the next six weeks, Simpson's defense team, led by Johnnie Cochran, is expected to attempt to forge a permanent ceasefire in the region—where 40,000 Russian troops were sent last December to put down a three-year-old independence drive.

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MAKING MILLIONS

Canadian software companies are leaders in a highly competitive global computer market

BY DEBORAH MCNURD

On the final punctuation mark for the end of an era, last week, Smith Corona Corp. of New Canaan, Conn., one of the last North American companies to manufacture typewriters, formally filed for bankruptcy protection. Company executives said that financial conditions had deteriorated so sharply for these products and they expected that Smith Corona was left, with total net assets worth only \$594.5 million. That is only slightly more than the advertising budget that Microsoft Corp. of Redmond, Wash., has earmarked for the launch of the latest version of its personal computer operating system, Windows 95.

But since the late 19th century, when the widespread availability of cheap steam power ushered in the Industrial Revolution, has there been an innovation with the same transformative resonance of the computer? Last year in the first line, more than 125,000 households acquired personal computers that television sets. And as the access to computers has become more widespread as business, in all its forms and in homes, the computer industry itself has evolved at an increasingly rapid pace—along the way creating a stable of new Canadian pillars whose brands have conquered the world.

Their products are familiar names—CorelDRAW and BigFix—and their companies, including Cognos Corp., Gofil Corp., Delma Corp., Illuminated Communications Inc. and Northbridge Networks, are gracing global arenas for their innovative products. Together they represent a multibillion-dollar-a-year industry that, even a decade ago, hardly existed. Clustered around universities such as the University of Waterloo, and research facilities, such as those in Kanata, Ont., the software companies have become corporate blocks in Canada's New Economy.

In the beginning, these were hardware masons, early mainframe computers that were the exclusive preserve of experts within big government and big corporations. The next wave, in the 1980s, brought an array of home, smaller personal computers that could perch on any desktop or settle in a lap.

But it is software that is now on the move, adding value in hardware, providing customized services for mass-produced computers and connecting incompatible systems into a seamless global communication network. Says Michael Bauer, associate professor of computer science at the University of Western Ontario in London: "Hardware is as long as it is, it's a 'me too' basis. It's a basic platform for the software that's carrying technology on the next leg forward."

The highbrow emphasis on software is already apparent in the recent spate of strategic acquisitions and mergers in the sector. Earlier this year, software company Alias Research of Toronto, maker of the three-dimensional computer-aided design software, was taken over by Silicon Graphics of Mountain View, Calif. In 1994, Softimage of Montreal, which produces special-effects software, was acquired by Microsoft. Last month, Mirra Corp., whose corporate roots are planted firmly in the mid-size business, paid \$4.8 billion to acquire the established broad-based software developer Lotus Development Corp., maker of the profitable spreadsheet net-

program Lotus 1-2-3 and Lotus Notes.

Then last week, Toronto-based Delma Corp. announced that it was joining forces with Cypress Corp. of Cupertino, Calif., as a \$560-million share-exchange deal. Both companies have been well-positioned to benefit from the release of Microsoft's new, improved Windows 95 software.

Industry analysts say that they expect that consolidation will continue, especially because Canadian high-technology stocks are now attractively priced for U.S. investors.

Another incentive for software mergers is the growing need to develop strong brand recognition in a competitive market. According to technology analyst Mark Lawrence, with Louvre Dynamics/McCathie Ltd. in Toronto, as computing power has become broadly available in the general population, software has become "more a consumer retail business than a technological one." He adds that the need of a recognized brand name to gain retail distribution will also push software mergers.

Just as in the consumer goods industry, software has become a business where low margins must be offset by high sales volume and a significant chunk of what is known in the computer business as computer "hardware." That means that, as Microsoft has clearly demonstrated, aggressive, global marketing is essential for success. After all, when Bill Gates searched for a top executive to run the ailing computer giant around financially strained to a standstill, Gates' short previous career experience was at the packaged goods company Procter & Gamble.

In order to recover the considerable costs of software development, companies have to act fast—and globally. Although a high price may be charged for a new software product initially, it does not take long for competitors to copy it. That means that the volume of sales must be high. "The economics of the software business force companies to think globally," says Paul Zimbardo, president of computer consultancy IDC Canada.

But at the same time as global market pressures are pushing the software industry to consolidate, there is still considerable organic growth. While larger, combined companies may increasingly dominate the business, their focus is on the high volumes of mass-market sales. As the companies get larger and more innovative, they create new, specialized niches for smaller companies. "The big com-



Michael Peter
Peter: "cash on hand and a stock price that's appropriately valued"

panies may drive the big trends," says Bauer, "but the smaller companies feel that, constantly adding value and providing specialized services."

According to industry observers, Canadian companies have so far excelled at finding and eliminating specialized software niches. Already, there is an impressive list of home-grown success stories and among their ranks the financial rewards for entrepreneurs and investors alike have been significant. But for even the leading contenders, the fast pace of change, the intense global competition and the challenges of managing a small business to create a consistent juggling act. After all, today's Microsoft can quickly become tomorrow's Smith Corona.

LEADERS OF THE PACK

A handful of Canadian entrepreneurs have successfully made the transition from high-tech upstarts to the international ranks of software industry leaders. In the process, they have become multi-millionaires and created knowledge-centres at home. But while they all clearly enjoy the view from the top, they are also acutely aware that the only way to stay in the game is to keep innovating, spreading and expanding their existing product lines.

SAILING PAST THE COMPETITION WITH CUSTOM COMPUTERWARE

COFOUNDER: Michael Peter
PRODUCT: computer customization software
1994 REVENUE: \$150 million

When he is discussing his retirement plans, Michael Peter is mathematically precise. Peter, chairman and chief executive of software developer Cognos Inc. of Ottawa, says that in a few months—when he steps down from the active role he may play in the company—he intends to spend exactly one-third of his time sailing. "But a third of my time is all I'll ever spend on a boat," declared Peter who has a master's degree in physics. "It's just too much intellectual energy."

Although Peter's debonair captain status makes him instantly recognizable by the standards of the fractious software industry, he is one of the Canadians who has struck it rich in the business. Gugino, who Peter, 52, founded in 1983, is a recognized global leader in the business software market. And, as Peter points out, thriving for that long as a leader in an industry where most of the leading-edge companies of 10 years ago are now out of business. "We always said that software is a more valuable quality than skill or luck," he noted.

But Cognos has more than just experience—it scores well in skill and luck, too. One of the toughest challenges for an established software company is to develop a new and generative product that proves to be as popular and as profitable as its first. Cognos got started by developing custom software for individual businesses in time, it began to develop software tools to enable businesses to customize their computer systems to meet their individual needs. Five years ago it introduced a new product line of so-called intelligent software, which businesses can use to organize their own data. Cognos president Ray Zimbardo says that luck helped with the development of its second-generation products, Impromptu and PowerPlay. "A lot of the drive behind those products come from one of our customers who had this problem with data and asked us to help," said Zimbardo. "That

give us an early lead. We got a hot product in a hot market."

White Coghead begins to eye the consumer market, its business in selling graphics products are paying off handsomely. Last year, Coghead reported sales of \$150 million. Recently, its share price soared to \$48, from \$25 at the beginning of the year, giving the company a current market capitalization of more than \$500 million. Peter, who owns 23 per cent of the company's shares, can clearly afford to retire. He is, however, to keep the shares and remain on the company's board of directors as the company's largest shareholder.

As for the recent rash of takeovers and mergers in software, Peter considers it a healthy sign of maturation. "The large firms are developing a great deal of resources, power and marketing capabilities," he says. "Companies like Microsoft and Oracle are moving into real acquisitions." But he says that does not necessarily mean that they will crush small and mid-sized software companies. In fact, he notes that every acquisition creates new opportunities for others.

Still, Peter sounds slightly wary of the market power that the giants exert, noting that "it is the most successful companies that appear to be the most likely to be taken over now." He says that one of the key things Coghead will be looking for is the incentive it has to replace him as a luminary with acquisition strategies and techniques. "I don't know for sure that we will want to do acquisitions," he said, "but I

COVER

know that we want to have that capability." He said that Coghead is currently well-positioned to launch a takeover because it has "lots of cash on hand and a stock price that's appropriately valued," but cautions that, he added, "We already have a lot on our plate."

Associate director Peter is a perfectionist who has trouble relinquishing the micro-management of those projects he has undertaken personally. He says that he is sleeping down from the day-to-day operations to pursue wider interests. Unconcerned, Peter says first, he does not consider it retroactive a symptom of a mid-life crisis. "I wouldn't use that term," he said, "but if I stood back and looked at my life from one end to the other, I would definitely be disappointed if I did not live myself up to investigate other choices and to pursue other possibilities before I was too old."

As an avid sailor, Peter says that one of the first research projects he may undertake is circumnavigating the world in his yacht. He also intends to use some of his time helping other technology companies grow. After he announced that intention at Coghead's annual meeting last month, he said, his office was inundated with inquiries from small companies. "It may take me a couple of years," he said, "but I'd like to find two or three or four that I could make a contribution to. For Peter apparently, even sailing around the world cannot match the exhilaration of technology.

BRENDA DALGLISH

A GRAPHIC EXAMPLE OF SUCCESS

COHES: Michael Cowpland

PRODUCT: computer graphics software

1994 REVENUES: \$164 million

Michael Cowpland is one fast talker. It is difficult to tell whether the rapid rise of the chairman and president of Corel Corp. is one of the reasons for his success or the remarkably fast-moving software industry, in which he has spent more than 20 years in the sector. His speech has accelerated to the pace of the industry. After all, speed is of the essence in the highly competitive software game. "It's war," says Cowpland breezily. "People are getting that down in fitness around us all the time. You can't rest on your laurels for a minute, because the industry changes every month."

Cowpland knows what he is talking about. At 32, he has already founded two successful high-tech companies, Metel Corp., which concerned a license ratio in the wireless switching market with its key telecommunications software components, was an industry pioneer in the 1970s and early 1980s before hitting technological problems that slowed it down. More recently, Cowpland started up Corel Corp., which develops and markets the popular graphics application software CorelDRAW, which allows users to create elaborate designs on their personal computers. Corel, which annual sales of \$164 million in 1994 and has a current market capitalization of \$1.2 billion, has been a recent stock market favorite. Since the beginning of the year, its share price has almost doubled to \$8.50. Cowpland personally owns about 18 per cent of the Ottawa-based company, bringing his estimated worth to more than \$200 million.

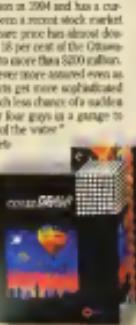
Cowpland says that Corel's future "becomes ever more intense even as the software industry matures." As the products get more sophisticated and as the cost of producing grows, there's much less chance of a "surprise," he said. "It's no longer possible for four guys in a garage to bring out something that could blow us out of the water."

But Corel has never shied away from competition. In 1992, it revolutionized the pace of the international software industry by releasing new versions of its products more frequently. Instead of bringing out a software upgrade every 18 to 24 months—their industry standard—Corel began introducing new versions of its most popular products every 12 months. Then, instead of replacing the earlier version of its software with the newest version, it continued to sell discounted older versions to users who did not need the latest technology.

Cowpland insists that the sales potential



● **Corel's Cowpland:** "You can't rest on your laurels for a minute"



for graphics software is much greater than for other types of software, such as spreadsheet and word processing programs. "Graphics is the word processing, say when after you get a spell check and a grammar check and all the fonts you want, there really isn't much more that you can add," he said. "With graphics there's almost no end of revision possibilities."

With a firm grip on niche within the graphics software market, Corel predominantly caters to computers that use Microsoft Corp.'s highly popular Windows operating system rather than the Macintosh system—or the Macintosh system—a new operating system based on Apple's computer guitars. Next year, Cowpland says, Corel will begin to offer a desktop video system that will allow users to communicate with each other via computer networks, while viewing video pictures of each other. As for the rash of takeovers sweeping through the software industry, Cowpland declares that Corel is only marginally involved. "With a market cap of \$1 billion," he said, "we'd be a pretty large chess piece for someone to buy out." Although the company is a frequent buyer of technologies, he said that Corel is not interested in tak-

ing over other software companies or has the industry's leader, Microsoft Corp. of Redmond, Wash., Coophead says that by laying only in technology, Corel gets what it wants from a business without having to take on some other company's problems.

The pace of Corel and Microsoft's growth in other ways is well. Microsoft's founding chairman, Bill Gates, has a stated goal of seeing a computer on every desk and in every home—equipped with his firm's software products. But Corel's ambitions are more modest—and less computer-focused. Based in England, Cowpland is 12 years older than Gates and he did not grow up inside the industry as Gates did. While Gates was first paid for writing software while he was still in high school, Cowpland studied mechanical and electrical engineering at university. And he was working for Bell Canada's research division at about the same time that Gates was dreaming about how widespread computer use would eventually become.

Even Corel appears to regard computers pragmatically as useful tools rather than a personal obsession. Although he uses Corel products to design his home presentations and slide shows, he says that he does not spend a lot of time surfing the Internet. "It's also nice," he said. "It's good at doing a very wide search very quickly, which is that and that helps me."

Cowpland does, however, share at least one personal interest with Gates. They are both close to completing the construction of massive houses. Gates is building a \$15-million, 42,000-square-foot home on the shores of Lake Washington in Seattle. The property will have a 600-seat pool, a movie theater, a man-made stream and underground parking for 28 cars. Meanwhile, Cowpland's controversial \$26,000-square-foot mansion in Ottawa's stately Rockcliffe Park neighbourhood features two square courts, five bedrooms and a 20-car underground garage. Some neighbors complained that the house was too large for the neighborhood, but Cowpland says that he sends a huge house so that he and his second wife, Marilyn, can indulge their athletic interests. "The reason why the house is so big is that it has space like the squash courts and room for Ping Pong and snooker," he said. "We wanted to be able to have people over to the house to play sports, not just sit around the fire all the time." Even for a fast-talker like Cowpland, talk is never cheap.

B. D.

THE FLIGHT OF THE HUMMINGBIRD

HUMMINGBIRD: Fred Sorkin

PRODUCT: computer network software

1994 REVENUES: \$33 million

Upgrading the sophisticated design of F18 Egrets, the supercomputer jets flown by Canada's air force, requires the work of a team of engineers using powerful miniaturized computers. But technical supervisor of Los Angeles-based Northrop Grumman Corp., which manufactures the aircraft, were attempting to miniaturize the processor of this high-fidelity project so as to reduce power consumption. In the two systems could not communicate effectively. In fact, it took engineers 10 years to bring computers big enough to fit in the jets' wings to the most basic tasks as the F18 project. Then, North York, Ont.-based Hammerhead Communications Ltd. sold Northrop Grumman a software package known as an X-server, which links together 1000 board-based computer systems and personal computer programs. Now, it takes Northrop engineers only 18 minutes for their desktop PCs to run a full range of tests on the big machine.

Since 1987, Hammerhead has specialized in the business of getting computers to talk to one another. That year, company founder Fred Sorkin began adapting X-server software technology, developed at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology for large computers or government agencies that owned a variety of incompatible computers, for use by small-er servers. The first two years were lean, and Sorkin left Hammerhead, and its six original employees, with a \$2 million a year from various corporate consulting contracts. In 1989, the company finally made its first major sales to Ontario Hydro and Statistics Canada—and it has never looked back, Sorkin recalls. "We were starting. Then, we raised \$500,000 of software in one month, and we were jumping up and down with joy."

The customers have continued as Hammerhead has grown steadily. It reported sales of \$35 million and a profit of \$11.4 million in 1994, and is set to double its revenue and profit to \$65 million and \$15 million in 1995. For employees who bought shares at \$16 each when Hammerhead went public in 1993, this is also cause for rejoicing. Hammerhead used to trade at \$400 a share, says Sorkin. "It's a source of real joy for me to see staff with new cars and cottages." Sorkin's own sister in Hammerhead is worth \$204 million at current market prices but he notes that this wealth has made little material difference in a life filled with 80-hour work weeks, constant business travel and only the occasional game of tennis. "I live in the same house, drive the same car and have as much fun as anyone in a Rolls-Royce," Sorkin told Maclean's.

Even by the measure of Canada's high-technology circles, Sorkin holds one of the more impressive resumes in the business. Now 57, he was born in Labrador and earned a PhD in computer science from Maastricht University, and two masters degrees—in mathematics and engineering—from Lethbridge University, before coming to Canada in 1976. An associate professor at the University of Alberta, he was considering a move to Israel. He adds, "While it might be easier to run this kind of business in the United States, I live it here and am forever grateful to Canada."

From 1979 to 1981, Sorkin was the director of electronics development for Mecon, the information-systems subsidiary of semiconductor electronics giant Philips NV in Montreal. In the early 1980s, he ran the office-products di-

visions of Mitel Corp. and anti-pollutant Friends along the way among them, former Mitel head and Carol Corp. chief executive Michael Copeland, who is now on the Brampton-based board of directors. Despite his professional floundering success, however, Sorkin continues to sport shoulder-length hair, and he is frank and contrite—with a thick cigar in hand—as often as photographs of recent sales conventions.

To keep his firm's operations humming, Sorkin is pushing his 100-person research-and-development team to expand its range of computer networking products. At the moment, the Kauai D team is in the final stages of building an 8-server that works with Microsoft's long-awaited Windows 95 computer operating system, which is expected to be released in late August. Currently, a single package of Bramptonsoft's software costs \$499, although prices drop sharply for customers buying in bulk. And each major corporation as Newbridge usually buys 450 units at a shot. About 75 per cent of Newbridge's sales are in the United States—but over the past year, revenue came from Canada. The company now controls about 40 per cent of the Kauai market, and Sorkin says he would like to hold 50 per cent within three years. By then, he estimates, the sector will be worth more than \$300 million—it is currently worth about \$100 million.

According to Sorkin, major acquisitions may soon be in the cards. In March, Newbridge bought Raleigh, N.C.-based computer network designer Beane & Whatmote Software for \$16 million, a move that added additional networking tools to Newbridge's inventory and increased the company's profile with American investors, an important factor for a company that based its shares on the New York City-based NYSE's exchange last year. Although the company has \$50 million in cash in the bank and no debt on its books, Sorkin says he may take advantage of the market's strong appetite for high-technology stocks by issuing additional shares. Clearly, this Bramptonsoft is spreading its wings.

ANDREW WILLIS

LEARNING THE FAX OF LIFE

BEHIND THE SCENES: Devan Beane, Mark Shapland, Bert Amato
PROFOUND commitment business forms including for software
1994 REVENUE \$233 million

The staff at Toronto-based Delrina Corp. has always had trouble to burn. Under the leadership of a bird-drinking trio of immigrants and a California-based sales and marketing team, Delrina's trio of computer programmers gained notoriety with a screen saver program in which a shaggy-roaring pugnacious bear with a flock of flying toasters—a parody of a popular program sold by Berkeley Systems Inc. of Berkeley, Calif. When the U.S. company challenged Delrina's right to use the flying toaster image, the dispute "brought up

valuable global publicity for the Canadian firm's products. Delrina also designed software which allowed people to send and receive faxes from their personal computers, called the program WinFax and sold 12 million copies worldwide. In fact, the company was probably its own best customer, unleashing a constant barrage of electronic press releases touting the company's latest products and product upgrades.

But some of that attitude turned against Delrina's management last week, when 750 surprised employees suddenly learned that their seven-year-old company would be folding its operations into Syntacsoft Corp. of Cupertino, Calif., in a share exchange deal valued at \$568 million. The staff at Delrina's Toronto head office spent yesterday at the prospect of losing up to 65 jobs, as well as some of their cherished independence.

But according to the company's founding chairman, Devan Beane, Delrina's decline will not be unaffected by the merger. Just hours after the agreement with Syntacsoft was signed, Beane told *Maclean's*, "The ability of Delrina to create and innovate is enhanced by this deal. Syntacsoft has shown real talent in managing acquisitions, and we will continue to do research and development in Toronto."

But Beane added that software is not an industry for either the faint of heart or the weak: sales of Delrina's fax programs have slowed to a trickle in recent months as computer users begin to anticipate the imminent arrival of Microsoft's new

Windows 95 operating system, which has built-in fax capability. He predicts continuing volatility in the software industry, and he acknowledges that the need for a broader range of products helped to drive Delrina, with sales last year of \$125 million, into the arms of Syntacsoft, which had 1994 sales of \$450 million.

For his part, Syntacsoft chief executive Gordon Tabanoush says that he is inspired by the challenge of trying Delrina into its top-tier structure of the electronic business software market, and its 70-per-cent share of the software market—a big draw product line which is focused on document handling and protection, Tabanoush says. "There's a tremendous integration of technologies and capabilities. We see huge opportunities for software that capabilities like this. When you look at the people doing this, Delrina is at the top of a sharp learning curve."

For now, Tabanoush and several other senior managers plan to stay around and develop more software. Beane, at least, 43-year-old managing partner, shareholder and general manager of the North Toronto-based firm, is just pleased from the jury Royal York Vale Golf Course, will join the Syntacsoft board. He will be accompanied there by Devan Beane, Mark Shapland and Bert Amato. As a result of the merger, each of them will receive over twice their \$30 million in employee stock. Chief technology officer Bert Amato is also staying at Delrina, but the fourth founding member of the team—San Jose, Calif.-based adviser Devan Beane—will likely leave the firm, leaving forces with Syntacsoft to put the last step on a journey that started in Brampton for Beane and Shapland, and in Zarathuska for Amato. The three did not meet until they reached Toronto. Then Amato, who had worked at IBM, and Shapland brought a software idea to Beane, who was then president of another software company, Janitor Distribution Inc. Eventually, the three joined forces. New upstart Delrina and its executives are pleased by the big leagues, and Beane says, "I anticipate fantastic opportunities to build a more powerful company, without some of the distractions that dog smaller firms." And to California, Delrina's attitude may just find a natural home.

A. W.



• Delrina's Beane, Amato and Shapland: left to right; attitude to burn



A NEW BRIDGE TO A HIGH-TECH FORTUNE

NEWBRIDGE NETWORKS: Toronto, Matthews
PRODUCT: computer network networking equipment
1994 REVENUE \$62 million

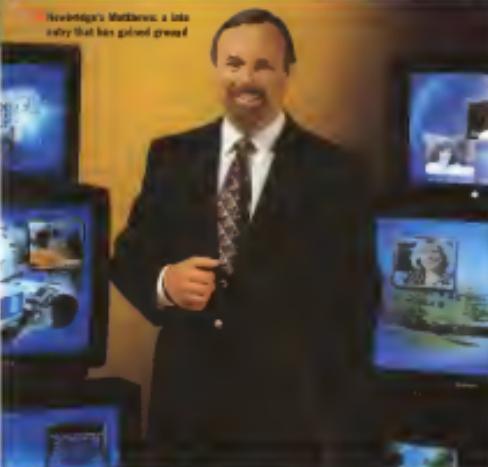
Toronto's Matthews has always lived to the letter. As a child, he followed every rule his father's group, the Welsh town of Newbridge, in the Ottawa basin. Matthews' tastes are like his tastes: tyrosine. At a 10-year-old company named Newbridge Networks Corp. when last year, he vacated his property in Wales. At 31, Matthews has assumed two functions in many months. Now he is on the verge of losing profitability, and the new president of communications equipment.

Already, the two companies' wireless telephone products have won three consecutive awards in the communications specialty league in asynchronous transfer mode (ATM). That means that the company's product can handle any electronic information and move it quickly and reliably, the way consumers can be bumped from a ship to a truck in a day. Last year was the first that Newbridge sold ATM products—and it moved about \$60 million worth.

Over the next two years, investment analysts Andrew Wallman and Tom Valita of the Toronto-based securities dealer Eagle & Partners Inc. forecast that Newbridge's \$60 million could top \$470 million. They also showed the delisted company, which had 2,095 employees and sales of \$552 million and profits of \$254 million in 1994, as capable of expanding to \$1.2 billion in sales and a \$250-million profit by 1996.

But, according to the rules, Newbridge should never have even made it out of the starting gate. Company spokesman John Lewis concedes, "We were actually a late entry into networking, and should never have been able to make up ground. But what we provided from the start was a total solution to a company's communications needs, something no competitor was doing."

Matthews' high tech adventure in Canada began in 1988, when he and his wife, Ann, then living in Wales, visited Ottawa on a vacation in North America. They never left. An engineer by training, he took a job in Ottawa making silicon chips for Microgatecs International, a branch of Northern Telecom. He raised his first millions with Michael Copeland when the two founded Miel Corp. with a \$50,000 loan and a technology that converted ordinary dial phones to touch-tone lines. After a hearing ride on the stock market that culminated in a corporate buyout by BellSouth Telecom, Matthews left Miel in 1990 with about \$40 million in cash and founded Newbridge Networks. Along the way, he also accumulated the trappings of various vacation homes in Ontario's Thousand Islands region and in Florida, and properties in Wales and London. Matthews recently earned 14th place on *The Sunday Times*' list of the 500 richest Britons—three spots above Queen Elizabeth II. But then, the Queen never had to work her way to the top.



• Newbridge's Matthews: a late entry that has gained ground

COVIA LEARNING CURVE

At Waterloo, students are taught to solve real business problems

BY ANDREW WILLIS

It looks like a typical college dormitory kitchen. Young people are peeling coffee cups in the sink and the posters on the wall set out the schedule for picking basketball games on the University of Waterloo courts across the street. But this is actually the incubator of a dozen, 25-million-dollar software companies in Waterloo, Ont., called Research in Motion Ltd., known to its staff simply as RIM. And when they are not making java or shooting hoops at the school from which most of them graduated, the bulk of RIM's 30 employees are writing the code that runs the so-called wireless data communications—the俗称“data mugs”—that let readers send e-mail messages, the telephone, fax, and other things. If local readers are getting sorority, it's recent Toronto Raptors sponsored three-on-three basketball tournaments to promote credit and debit cards without attaching them to telephone lines. RIM, founded in 1984, is just one of more than 100 technology-based enterprises to sprout from the fertile minds of University of Waterloo students and one of a dozen software firms, including an industrial park on the edge of the university's campus. While small, many of these companies are growing rapidly, frequently boasting revenues by 50 per cent each year and hiring new computer programmers at least as they graduate. Says Frank Tampa, chairman of the University of Waterloo's computer science department: "It is like to call it a greenhouse. The environment at Waterloo is one that says education and research can work to the benefit of industry."

In a so-called technology triangle, bordered by the Ottawa cities of Kitchener-Waterloo, Cambridge, and Guelph, Canada's next generation of software companies are nurtured by a potent mix of entrepreneurial university culture, a healthy dose of government support, and innovative financing techniques. Inevitably, the companies will confront growing pains, just as the challenges of an emerging computer industry governed by fast-changing rules. RIM, executives like RIM founder and president Mike Lazaridis, who left Waterloo two months before graduation in 1984 and founded RIM in 1985 on a leave-correcting dozen software programmes for General Motors of Canada Ltd. in Guelph, Ont., confidently predict that his "highly profitable" privately held business will double in size in each of the



Students in the University of Waterloo's computer department: the next generation.

next few years, with about 50 per cent of the growth coming from exports to foreign markets. So far, however, the big paydays are still in the future. Waterloo, its wife and one child live in a modest suburban house, compared with more established colleagues in Ottawa.

The parents of the new generation of software stars, Waterloo students who developed many of their practical business skills while still at school, Waterloo uses a co-op education system that sends about 70 per cent of the school's 1,000 computer science students on four-month work terms. Students work for good companies like Microsoft, and users of computers such as the oil and auto industry, and at wages from like \$30. By the time they graduate with an average work term under their belts, Tampa says, "Our students have faced real-world problems. They see the world of industry as something that is worth addressing." For now, Waterloo graduates enter the workforce with a solid grasp of the problems confronting businesses. As a result, they also face well in the employment marketplace. The average entry-level salary in a Waterloo computer science grad is \$35,000 to \$41,000.

When it comes to starting new enterprises, Waterloo students also are firmly motivated by example. The university was among the first Canadian institutions to allow its staff to keep the rights and royalties that flow from technologies they develop at the school, a practice that is now being imitated at other Canadian universities. Some 50 per cent of computer science professors now on staff are stakeholders in outside companies. One of them is Tampa, who is one of the



Computer workshop at Waterloo, developing entrepreneurial skills

three founders and a director at Waterloo-based Open Text Corp., which designed the Open Text Web Index, a free service that users say is the live web going for surfing the World Wide Web. Several staff members have ongoing success stories, among them computer science professor Wesley Gethin. In 1994, Gethin and a partner sold Waterloo International Corp., a computer education company they founded in 1981, to Concord, Mass.-based PowerSoft Corp. for more than \$100 million.

After graduation, entrepreneurial students often find financial support for their ventures from one of several major financial institutions that have located in the area with a view to growing in an entrepreneurial cluster. At the branch office of the Bank of Montreal, the point man is vice-president Art Duthieham. After a stint as head office, Duthieham was transferred to Waterloo and started the first local technology finance centre. His mandate was to make loans based on a company's potential for generating income cash flow rather than the more traditional "hard assets" that banks have used, including a will of orders, creditable equipment, bricks and mortar. The local bank has already helped about half of the estimated \$21-million cost of the project, which is now used as Ottawa's office of investment that helps technology high-tech companies in the nation's capital, and a similar network in Peterborough, Ont. Jim McMillan, the head of that bank's Ottawa high-tech entrepreneurship centre, says a will of billion-dollar dollar companies have generated the nickname Silicon Valley North, in reference to the Waterloo computer experts who, he predicts, "Waterloo's high-tech sector is on the way of the same success that Ottawa has seen in the past 10 years." Which means, of course, basketball-playing, recent Waterloo graduates could soon be Canada's newest high-tech millionaires.

and have already pledged everything up to the family home to make a go of it."

Other major banks have now set up similar technology financing centres and there are also a growing number of venture capital firms in the "technology triangle" that are willing to supply money and management capital in return for equity stakes in fledgling companies. Among other financial resources, there is also a recently created on-line database called Cadek that provides companies with detailed descriptions of some 600 federal and provincial government support programs available to them. RIM chairman Jones Baldwin, whose University of Waterloo and Harvard University business degrees make him one of the few non-Waterloo grads in the building, says that banks and venture capital firms are becoming increasingly sophisticated at providing funding for start-ups, potentially "very small" and other high-technology products. He adds: "We all still worry about how arbitrary the banks can be with their programs and the second or third of a dozen venture capitalists will ask for this. This region still has a problem finding investment companies."

High-technology business in the Waterloo region can compare rates—and gain moral support—from a variety of local sources. There is a community and industry association, now called Influential, 14-member breakfast club that meets monthly at a local Holiday Inn (80+ software executives call themselves "The Atlas Group") to an extensive corporate network called CTB9000. That project aims at linking Waterloo's various schools, newspapers, business, libraries and all levels of government in the next three years. Thirty-five local organizations have already signed off on the estimated \$21-million cost of the project, which is now used as Ottawa's office of investment that helps technology high-tech companies in the nation's capital, and a similar network in Peterborough, Ont. Jim McMillan, the head of that bank's Ottawa high-tech entrepreneurship centre, says a will of billion-dollar dollar companies have generated the nickname Silicon Valley North, in reference to the Waterloo computer experts who, he predicts, "Waterloo's high-tech sector is on the way of the same success that Ottawa has seen in the past 10 years." Which means, of course, basketball-playing, recent Waterloo graduates could soon be Canada's newest high-tech millionaires.

CANADA'S HIGH-TECH HOT LIST

The names are unfamiliar and the technology is sometimes incomprehensible. But across Canada, programmers are writing computer codes that might well set software standards and create the next billion-dollar company. According to Jim McMillan, a Waterloo-based high-technology industry analyst for Marconi, London Scientific Inc., three hot sectors for software developers are information management, multimedia products, and networking tools that allow different computer systems to communicate with one another. Says McMillan: "All we know is that whole new media are developing. That holds tremendous promise, but there is also potential for total failure."

FULCRUM TECHNOLOGIES INC., of Ottawa, develops software on the Macintosh exchange in the United States. Founded in 1988, the company writes the software used to store, sort and retrieve large amounts of data.

INFOCORE COMPUTER SOLUTIONS LTD. of Waterloo produces software that automates retail cash registers, along with inventory and accounting functions.

INTIC TECHNOLOGY CORP., of Toronto provides telecommunication, such as ABC, BBC, CSC and NBC, with the digital equipment needed to get programs into viewers' homes.

NEW ERA SYSTEMS SERVICES LTD., a private Calgary company founded in 1986,

specializes in disaster recovery and storage management—making sure data is secure all the time for companies.

PC DOCS PORTABLE INTERNATIONAL INC., of Toronto develops software that manages electronic databases. Share price has soared from 60 cents to \$17 apiece in the past year.

Q/MEDIA SOFTWARE CORP. of Waterloo develops the tools that make it possible to design multimedia computer products like CD-ROM disks. Q/Media is also the largest distributor and producer of software disks in Western Canada.

SOFTWARE INTERNATIONAL INC., of Vancouver, is at work on the next generation of word processing and viewing packages for the World Wide Web.

SWITCHVIEW INC., of Waterloo, Ont., manufactures, leases or upgradestelco-communications systems with 14 different software packages.

Business NOTES



A NEGATIVE DEVELOPMENT:

A week after Japan and the United States settled their dispute over auto trade, the US government announced a new trade action against Japan. Trade officials in Washington announced that they will launch an investigation into claims by US film maker Kodak that Japanese rival Fuji is breaking trade rules.

Canadian solution

Just as the industry "tried" around just one way last week, Canadian Airlines International Ltd. at Calgary announced that it had struck a tentative deal with two of its five unions to boost productivity and cut the airline's operating costs. Negotiations had started at the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, which represents 3,000 of the airline's 18,000 employees, says that the union agreed to "phase out" contract changes that would cut labor costs by 17 per cent. The Canadian Air Pilots Association also agreed to its share of the \$125-million annual cost reduction, demanded by Canadian.

As part of the same cost-cutting program, airline president Tom Ross announced that the company plans to restructure some of its operations. It will move its main Quebec operations from Montreal's Dorval airport to the more convenient Trudeau airport, transfer all flights St. John's route to regional partner Air Atlantic. Airway-link flights between Montreal and Rome, more

all. Montreal-based pilots to Trudeau or elsewhere, and restructure its services in parts of Canada and Labrador. Ross said that at least some of the 200 employees affected by the changes may be laid off.

Morford said that another morale is low at Canadian, adding that the union would like to see Jefferies replaced with a more dynamic leader. "We want a public, high-profile, business leader along the lines of Mr. Canada's Halleen Harris (Chrysler's CEO), James or Steve Jobs (for Jobs' sake)." Jefferies dismissed the criticism, saying that transparency is the key to imposing massive change. In 1993, Canadian employees negotiated a 20-per cent cut in the company by underlining \$200 million worth of benefit and salary cuts. That has never been the following airline from beginning.

Meanwhile, new industry statistics indicate that Air Canada is pulling ahead of Canadian in its competition for trans-Atlantic traffic. During the first few months of the year Air Canada's air traffic increased by 8 per cent to 5.94 billion revenue-pulling miles (RPMS), while Canadian's fell by 6.6 per cent to 5.39 billion RPMS.

SATELLITE SIGNALS

Starting on Sept. 1, Canadian television viewers will be able to receive government-sanctioned, direct-to-home satellite signals. A federal cabinet order will allow Expresso TV to begin its operations at that time. Potential competitors, such as Power Direct Inc. of Montreal, will also be able to apply for operating licenses. The licensing process will be completed by Nov. 1.

BILLION-DOLLAR BOYS

Microsoft Corp., software mogul Bill Gates, of Seattle, is the richest person in the world, according to a list released last week by Forbes magazine. Forbes estimates Gates' fortune at about \$17.6 billion. Six Canadians also made the list: Ken Thomson, whose newspaper and information-based fortune is estimated at \$8.0 billion; James, Arthur and John Irving, whose father, K.C. Irving, left them a family company diversified into oil, publishing and broadcasting valued at \$4.8 billion; Charles Bronfman of Seagram Co. Ltd., worth an estimated \$3 billion; and Galen Weston of George Weston Ltd., with a net worth estimated at \$1.6 billion.

RATE CUT

The Canadian economy received a boost last week when the U.S. Federal Reserve Board cut its short-term interest rates. The Fed cut prompted Canadian banks to reduce their prime rate to 8.5 per cent from 9.75 per cent. That is down from a previous high of 9.75 per cent in February. Economists say lower rates should help revive the long-suffering economy by encouraging consumers to spend more. Stock markets in Canada, the United States and Japan rose on news of the rate cut.

FORD SWEETS OFFER

Ford of Canada has boosted its offer to buy out the company's remaining minority shareholders. But some of them say that the offer is still not good enough. Ford offered to pay \$15M for each of the 800,000 shares held by outside investors. The stock closed at \$15.60 a share before the new offer was announced. Ford had initially offered to pay \$10M each for the shares.

MERGER MANIA

Corporate mergers and acquisitions continued to a torpid pace in the second quarter of 1993, as deals totaling \$34 billion were completed. Merchant bank Credit Suisse Inc. of Toronto, which tracks domestic merger activity, predicts that 1993 will break the \$46.4-billion record set last year.

THE NATION'S BUSINESS



Giving the federalist option a brave voice

BY PETER C. NEWMAN

As the battle lines are drawn for the approaching Quebec referendum, the most interesting block of federalists to emerge on the Quebec scene is Le Groupe des cent. Formed by One Hundred, a loosely knit, nonpartisan coalition of young professionals, academics and business people. Like most other 'no' supporters, their rallying point is agreement on the independence and uniqueness of the socialist option. But unlike most of the other anti-separatists, they're defending the pro-Canada option primarily on a rational, non-ideological basis.

These are the best of the province's young professionals, who want to make their careers in Quebec. Before settling their current position, they really examined the benefits of both options. "Upon reflection," was told by Paul Lalonde, an Aylosse, Que., lawyer who is one of the group's signatories, "we believe that the best way for Quebec to develop reasonably and culturally is by remaining within the Canadian federation. While we're supportive of the leaders of the 'no' campaign, we take an independent view from them. We view them as our allies, not our leaders. Our most important purpose is to challenge the myth on which the independence movement is based—not the least of which is that young, educated Quebecers are all sovereigntists. Our original intent was to gather 100 like-minded men and women to our cause, but we've since grown to 200 members and are still expanding."

The group presented its point of view to Jacques Parizeau's regional commissioners and regularly debates sovereignty advocates. Its members concede that in the 1980s, when francophones didn't have the same access as anglophones to higher education, and enjoyed a lower economic and social status, a national government for Quebec may have made some sense. But now, they insist, circumstances have changed. The wage gap

'Quebec now has all the attributes of a free and democratic modern society. Independence is the solution to a problem that no longer exists.'

per cent of the province's gross domestic product, making it one of the world's most indebted countries, with a \$300,000 excess Quebecers thrown out as a result. Co-operation among those Quebec leaders to fight together for sovereignty, Mary-France Blanchard, another group member, maintains that their economic union proposal "appears to be open, but in fact it takes away the right of the people of Quebec to decide their own destiny. The controls and mandates of the fiscally partnership proposed in the referendum will lead to the sole discretion of the Quebec government. This process is inconsistent with the democratic principles just birthed by these laws."

Robert Gordeau, a strategic planner from Calgary who became a leading management consultant in Quebec, has emerged as one of the group's most articulate bilingual advocates. "The challenge for both old-line federalists and old-line sovereigntists," he said, "is that arguments based on fear won't work for either side this time around. Both sides have to come up with more positive reasons and we are finding one: our emotional resonance is support for our cause. There had better be a purpose, because the only relationship you don't stay together because it's cheaper to split the room. Of the new 'no' vote at issue, Gordeau makes the valid point that despite the so-called soft question that they expect ultimately Quebecers will be asked to vote for an independent independence, because, unlike the 1980 referendum of 1980, there will be a second chance to express public opinion."

Many of the group's members are growing up in families that feel the federal government is not doing enough to encourage immigration in its response to Quebec's needs. They're happy with the maintenance of federal provincial responsibilities enshrined in Paul Martin's second budget. The concern is that most Quebecers have an idea that Martin's original goals could eventually bring about the same desired decentralization envisioned by the Meech Lake accord.

They also hope that without attempting any major constitutional initiatives, Jean Chrétien will prove feasible enough, for example, to save a trans-Canada franchise off to provincial jurisdiction. "That's much more likely to be a radically incremental policy, rather than a short, dramatic stroke to sweep rule out."

The trouble with those constitutional meagre-gosups of the past decade was that they were attempting to limit us as, in a sense, irreversibly, inaction, to changes that hadn't been tried or tested. A few incremental, but sensible, steps that are good policy and just good policies will do much more to convince the skeptics in Quebec than a whole bunch of grand, undeliverable promises."

Le Groupe des cent is dedicated to the notion that Quebecers will vote against separation because they'll realize it's not an option that will improve their lives. Let's hope it's right.



Goldberg: "They wanted me to do sexual stuff, and most of the time they didn't even ask."

LIFE

A no to dirty dancing

It is a Tuesday night—the Fourth of July—and the Brass Rail tavern on down-town Toronto's Yonge Street is crowded with off-duty bartenders, university students, college students and Army men skipping the bawdy parts of the bocce. As the men lounge in the bar's armchairs a lady banjo player dressed in a schoolgirl costume—converse, her plaid skirt and high-heel white stockings to the grinding guitars of 17. About 30 other women—wearing every permutation of scanty clothing, from bikinis to thong bodysuits to barely-visible lingerie—wander the floor. The dancers approach the men, crowded around the tables, but their eyes or sweet faces hide. And then they ask, "Wanta dance?" It is a question as old as 50-cent-a-dance bars and high-school proms. But behind the fest-party atmosphere, the lights and the sexy air-soft—traditional staples of the strip-tease—a lot has changed in Ontario.

Now, if the customer says yes to the dancer's come-on, she will typically lead him to a booth and show a private performance. For \$10, she will gyrate completely nude and rub herself against his chest. For \$20, she will let him touch her while she moves around on him. The service has come in to be known as "lap dancing," and many of the customers achieve orgasm. In some of the older bars, the dancers also take part in oral sex and even full intercourse. Since a landmark ruling last year by Ontario Court

Judge Gordon Blackham, forbidding between customers and exotic dancers, traditionally taboo in the province's strip bars, is no longer a criminal act. And with bar owners responding well to a new revenue opportunity, said old Ontario has gained the dubious distinction of becoming the lap-dancing capital of North America.

According to police community workers and the dancers themselves, the lap-dancing

An ex-stripper leads a campaign to ban 'lap dancing' in Ontario's nightclubs

boom has opened the door for prostitution, sexual assault and the transmission of disease. Exotic dancers, they say, are no longer selling mere fantasy—they are being forced to sell their flesh. But there is little that law enforcement authorities can do about it, thanks largely to Blackham's February 1995 decision. The judge dispensed charges of staging an indecent theatrical performance against Chateau Tavern, where one of a handful of Toronto bars still offer lap dancing. He ruled that a wide range of body contact—from

touching breasts to anal and—did not violate community standards, and therefore was not obscene. In the 17 months since, the full-contact lap dance has completely replaced raunchy predecessors—so-called "table dancing"—a lap-only performance in a client's table rather than on a stage.

The change was not a well-come one for Katherine Goldberg, a former exotic dancer who is fighting a one-woman campaign to ban lap dancing. Now 31, Goldberg began strippling seven years ago after the breakup of her first marriage. When her children to look after and little piling up, she entered the business of desperation. She soon found herself exploiting the customers and the girls, she says, and she soon formed living friendships with some of her customers. The money was good: a popular table dancer could easily make \$200 a night or more.

For the past four years, Goldberg has been working in the sprawling basement lounge of Edmores Hotel, an downtown Toronto. But things changed quickly after the Blackham decision. The club closed its doors, she says, "and they said, well, there's lap dancing now." The management brought in a sign "they dance" to turn the stripes at the art of lap dancing. Gradually, the signs forbidding touching between dancers and customers came down. And although the managers tell the dancers that lap dancing was voluntary, Goldberg says that it soon became the only way to make any money.

The clientele at the bar changed—less perfunctorily, more demanding. "It was only taking \$10 or \$20 a girl because I refused to do more than a dance," Goldberg says. "They wanted me to do sexual stuff and most of the time they didn't even ask." To Goldberg, who had performed that was sexual assault—and it began to take a psychological toll. "I would be angry with my body angry with my boyfriend before I went to work," she says. "And when I got home and took a shower, I even had [pimp] 10th date."

Goldberg says she warned that lap dancing was exposing her to the risk of sexually transmitted diseases and that the conditions were generally unsanitary. "Some of the dancers were having sex, so there would be used condoms on the couches," she says. Goldberg told her colleagues to do about it, thanks largely to Blackham's February 1995 decision. The judge dispensed charges of staging an indecent theatrical performance against Chateau Tavern, where one of a handful of Toronto bars still offer lap dancing. He ruled that a wide range of body contact—from

"They told me, 'We don't want you here because that's a lap-dancing club,'" Goldberg recalls. "That's when I decided that I had to go and do more."

Out of work and angry, Goldberg founded the Association for Bartender Enthusiasts to pressure provincial and municipal authorities to ban lap dancing. The association claims the support of about 300 dancers—most of whom, she says, work as escort managers for bars. "It's such a touching," Goldberg says. "And we want the club owners to be responsible if there's a girl that's sexually assaulted." With the bar's barroom manager, Michael, a native Ontarian, Goldberg has been circulating an anti-lap-dancing petition—signed so far as she has gathered 3,000 signatures from patrons, cleaners and community activists. In May, she staged a protest march at the provincial legislature that attracted about 300 supporters and secured an election promise from then-Tory premier—now Ontario Premier—Mike Harris that he would ban lap dancing.

Although Harris has yet to honor that vow, there are signs that official Ontario is listening to Goldberg. Among other initiatives, the Ministry of Licensing and Consumer Protection, which regulates more than 3,500 erotic cleaners and 41 clubs, is now working on bylaws to regulate exotic dancing. "What we essence it comes down to," says commission general manager Carl Buddle-Foster, "is that physical contact should be prohibited." One Ontario municipality—Richmond Hill, north of Toronto—has taken a more straightforward approach. Last April, police charged the owners of Fantasy strip club with operating a obscene bawdy house. Still, the future of lap dancing in Ontario largely depends on a Crown appeal of the Chateau case that started the whole controversy. The case is scheduled to reach court in September.

In the meantime, and given the conditions they must endure, will more dancers not simply quit? The answer seems to be simple—the money. Before lap dancing, most club performers \$200 to \$300 a week on average. Now, with a share of table-dancing profits, dancers typically have to pay the club owners in work—and keep whatever they can earn from lap dances beyond that. The further they let the customers go, the more money they make. As well, many dancers have little formal education—Goldberg herself never finished high school. And they are facing increasing competition from performers from developing countries or Eastern Europe who tend not to complain about their working conditions. At one downtown Toronto club, Goldberg says, nearly armed. The women are working for just \$1 a dance—the other \$8 goes straight to the clubowners. At another strip joint, a dancer from Bulgaria comes when she talks about Canada. "At least here," she says, "I don't have to line up for bread."

JOE CHEDLEY

Street warfare

Neighborhoods try to control the hooker trade

Used condoms, dirty syringes, pills, and even human excrement litter front yards, doorways and lanes. Eggshells are disrupted by foul language, needles and cross-dresser-lingerie traffic and the blunted sale of drugs on street corners. In at least half a dozen cities across the country, streetwalkers, prostitutes and randomly crossing pimps are doing battle with increasingly overwrought local residents. In Vancouver, city council voted 302 to 9 to ban federal Justice Minister Allan Rock to decriminalize adult prostitution. The principal



Streetwalkers at work: no support for the city's bid to legalize brothels

proponents of the motion said, was to limit the activities of streetwalkers by licensing prostitutes and perhaps relocating them to an official red-light district. But across the country, there was little support for the Toronto proposal. "It's a futile naive solution," said Ottawa city councillor Richard Cannings, who chaired a 10-month task force on prostitution. "This is an incredibly complex problem that goes right to the heart of our society."

The notion of regulating prostitution, of course, is not new. The official red-light districts of Hamburg and Amsterdam are often cited as models that provide safer environments for prostitutes. But Cannings and other Canadian observers say that the benefits of that approach are limited. A limited number of successful prostitutes tend to dominate the regulated brothels in such districts, while others, many of whom cannot be licensed anyway because of their youth or drug addiction, simply move to other neighborhoods as

Some cities—including Vancouver—are trying a two-pronged approach that attacks the substance factor while simultaneously establishing a support system for prostitutes who want to leave the sex trade. Edmonton police have used a vehicle equipped with a video camera to encourage sex trade prostitutes to leave. The city also helps support three residential centres for prostitutes who are trying to get out of the business. And in Montreal, a new program jointly run by the city and Concordia University provides drop-in centres where prostitutes can obtain counselling and support.

Many officials advocate crackdowns on pimps and pimps, particularly those who prey on young girls. Greater financial assistance is also required, to help young women drawn into prostitution by poverty, ignorance and early sexual abuse. As with so many social ills, treating the symptoms rarely leads to a cure.

PATRICIA CHESHOLD

Karla Homolka faces the heat

A tough defence lawyer grills the Crown's star witness against Paul Bernardo

At various points in his cross-examination, defence lawyer John Rosen asked his eyes and shrugged his shoulders. He was openly skeptical and few words were said. After two weeks of appearing as a Crown witness questioned by a sympathetic prosecutor, 39-year-old Karla Homolka was soon faced by the lawyer who is aggressively defending her ex-husband—Paul Bernardo. 30—against two counts of first-degree murder. Rosen's dramatic gestures and rhetorical flourishes in the downtown Toronto courtroom were more than mere courtroom theatrics, meant simply to impress the jury and intimidate the witness. They were part of a strategic attack on the foundations of Homolka's story—and the Crown's theory. They maintain that the star prosecution转弯子 to her senior husband's alleged crimes, the rapes and killings of Toronto schoolgirls Kristen French and Leslie Mahin, for whom she had been terrorized by her husband and abuser.

Challenging the Crown's portrayal of Homolka as a vulnerable young woman who was manipulated and controlled by her partner throughout their five-year relationship, the 39-year-old Rosen read aloud dozens of lose rates that she had sent to Bernardo. He depicted Homolka as a sexual aggressor who pursued Bernardo relentlessly during their courtship, became obsessed with marrying him and played an active role in several crimes. Rosen also produced several photographs of the couple, taken throughout the relationship, which showed a smiling, happy Homolka. But in the few days that she faced his imposing courtroom presence, Homolka did not flinch. Far from appearing subservient, she disputed many of his charges and allegations—and her court, after very tough questions, led to numerous heated exchanges. Frequently, Crown Attorney Ray Hadfield rose to object or Justice Patrick Lelage intervened in gently instruct Rosen to "let the witness answer."

While Rosen raised some serious doubts about Homolka's credibility, as doing so he referred to events that are rapidly changing to his own credit—who may, his lawyer under-



posed, testify later in the trial. Rosen accused Homolka of drugging her 15-year-old sister, Tammy, for Bernardo's sexual pleasure—not just once, as she had testified for the prosecution, but twice. Rosen charged that the other incident happened shortly five months before the previously known assault of Dec. 24, 1989, which led to the teenager's death when she choked on her own vomit. He said the earlier attack like the fatal one, took place in the basement of the Homolka family home in St. Catharines. (See Homolka denied it ever happened, saying: "You are *so* dead wrong.")

"That's not true," Homolka snapped back. "I was not thinking that my sister was dead." "I was thinking that my sister was dead!" "She brings her in the house and you don't stand there and say, 'What the hell are you doing? Get her out of my house! Get her out of the door!'"

"I didn't say no to Paul because he had something big held over my head."

But no matter how probing it is, Rosen's

cross-examination alone, which was to continue this week, appeared unlikely to put more than a dent in the Crown's case. The Crown claims Bernardo strangled the girls after abducting them and sexually assaulting them in the St. Catharines house he rented with Homolka. Homolka is already serving concurrent 12-year sentences after pleading guilty to manslaughter in a plea bargain for her involvement in the deaths of French and Mahin. As well, Homolka has already admitted her participation in the fatal attack on her sister Tammy as well as an April, 1981, assault of another teenage girl, identified only as June Doe, who survived and may testify against Bernardo. Even if those incidents cast doubt on Homolka's version of those events, the Crown has shown the eight-year, four-women jury another devastating piece of evidence—55 hours of tape-recorded interrogations depicting the rapists of all four girls.

Homolka and Bernardo early in their relationship (left); Rosen outside the Toronto courthouse challenging the foundations of Homolka's story



It has cross-examination last week. Rosen focused on Homolka's behavior before and after Bernardo's return from a trip to Florida. Homolka wrote, "I left my happy home. Let's never be like that again."

Rosen claimed that in the summer of 1990, the relationship had a dangerous turn when Bernardo became sexually attracted to Tammy. He questioned Homolka about an incident in July of that year in which Bernardo and Tammy drove in New York state to buy tickets for a party—a trip that should have taken less than 30 minutes but lasted five hours. Although Homolka denied it, Rosen maintained that she became suspicious that something had occurred between her sister and Bernardo. In a groan, says, "I left. Homolka took her revenge by drugging Tammy with valium and showing her how to rape her." What did you do was say that, if my little sister was playing with her, not going to get her home, I'll show her what this is all about," Rosen said.

Although Homolka maintains that she was consumed with guilt and remorse after Tammy's death, Rosen argued that the tragedy barely affected her. He also claimed that, far from being trapped into staying with Bernardo, she chose him over her family. In mid-November, 1990, the Homolkas suggested to their daughter that Bernardo, who was living in their house, ought to leave and let them grope. Tammy's death as a family Homolka acknowledged that Bernardo then became obsessed, and he would never sleep in the Homolka home again, and left with Karla in 1991. They spent a weekend together in hotels in nearby Hamilton, then, then leased their now-abandoned Cape Cod-style bungalow home in St. Catharines, which they leased entirely to an ex. In a letter written to Rosen at the time, Homolka proudly declared: "Finally, I have some happiness in my life. Paul and I are moving in together. We are going to be a family."

At the same time, she confided in Rosen's Jewish place for her June 29 wedding, despite the objections of her parents. The Homolkas complained that they couldn't afford the wedding, also because of the expense of Tammy's funeral, and asked their daughter to postpone it for a year. Bernardo, who was unemployed at the time, agreed and his father-in-law said that she should manage her own funds. Homolka expressed her own feelings in a February, 1991, letter to a friend, which Rosen read in court. "My wedding plans are going great, except that my parents are being—holes," she said. "They pulled half of the money out... and now we and Paul will have to pay for \$7,000 to \$8,000 of that wedding. My father doesn't even want us to have a wedding. He hasn't worked except for one day since Tammy died. He's wallowing in his grief." A grief which, Rosen said, Homolka had another shaped her understanding because she could think of nothing but herself and her marriage to Paul Bernardo.

A monthly report on personal health, life and leisure

BRITTLE BONES

On Dec. 8, 1991, Lynn Paard slipped on a patch of ice and broke her hip. It was a fall that changed her life. Subsequent tests showed that Paard, then 51, had developed osteoporosis, a degenerative disease that causes bones to become thin and brittle. Thanks to enormous high doses of calcium and drug therapy the Sudbukta retail clerk has since managed to leave her bones from deteriorating further. But she has had to give up use of her favorite hobbies—skiing and tennis—and now take extra care when she sits in a car, injury her spine. Worse, she is forced to live with pain that is sometimes severe. "Once you've broken a hip, your whole lifestyle changes," she says. "You've got to break a hip again, your whole lifestyle changes." She says, "I never walk down a flight of stairs without hanging on to the rail. And I hold my skates so I wouldn't have to look at them."

Paard is one of a growing number of Canadians who will develop osteoporosis in their middle years. The nonprofit Osteoporosis Society of Canada estimates that 1.5 million people across the country—three-quarters of them women—are suffer from osteoporosis. Experts say that about two million more are at risk—in a number that may double in the next 20 years as the baby boom generation moves into middle and old age. At the same time, a recent Scandinavian study found that the incidence of osteoporosis was rising out of proportion to the greying population—a trend the study's authors suggested might be due to a lack of exercise and poor nutrition, both of which can produce fragile bones.

The increased incidence of osteoporosis is not the only bad news for those concerned about the disease. Last month, a major study by doctors at Harvard University cast fresh doubts on the only preventive treatment currently approved for use in Canada, hormone replacement therapy (HRT). About 15 per cent of osteoporosis patients rely on HRT, which usually consists of low doses of the two hormones estrogen and progestin. But the Harvard study showed that women who took estrogen after menopause were 22 per cent more likely than other women to develop breast cancer. That finding, and others like it, have left doctors divided and patients confused about how best to prevent osteoporosis.

"Women are scared," says Dr. Gillian Hawker, research director for the orthopaedic program at Western's College. She adds that in a heated debate among professionals how best to prevent osteoporosis

"it's a very emotional decision, and science doesn't give us all the answers."

One of the biggest mysteries surrounds the question of who will develop osteoporosis. Women with a family history of the disease who have experienced irregular menstrual cycles or early menopause or who have a slight frame are thought to be at greatest risk; in addition, the problem seems to be more prevalent among Caucasians and Asians than other racial groups. Experts say, however, that none of these factors makes it possible to know which women will lose bone density. Joyce Gitt, director of research of the Osteoporosis Society, says the problem is complicated because many doctors still think of osteoporosis as a disease of old age, and because until now, women do not experience any symptoms or warn of its onset. Most are not diagnosed until after they have broken a bone, by which point they have typically already lost about 25 per cent of their bone density. "In this sort of group of women, doctors just aren't thinking of osteoporosis as a diagnosis,"

Gardiner says. "By the time you've broken a hip, you're pretty far along."

It is partly because of that uncertainty that Hawker recently recommended hormone replacement therapy for her patients, starting around menopause. "We know that you only go into risk factors, starting a menopause," she says. "In Hawker's view, among the few categories of women who should HRT are those who have breast cancer or another risk factor with hormone therapy, or who suffer from estrogen-related vaginal bleeding or liver disease."

To be sure, there are other options for people who suffer from osteoporosis. Calcitonin, a hormone that regulates calcium levels in the blood, has been shown to arrest the process of bone depletion, and bisphosphonates, which are used to treat certain bone disorders, can help to replace lost bone mass. But the treatments are still controversial and some have been proposed for use in treating osteoporosis.

Nor has any other therapy been proven to alter the bone-protective effect of estrogen. In general, women who start taking estrogen within three years of the onset of menopause are 85 per cent less likely to develop an osteoporosis-related hip- or wrist fracture. Combined with adequate calcium and exercise, HRT can also help reduce lost bone density. As a bonus, there is evidence that HRT can cut the risk of heart disease in half.

Despite that, concerns about the possible side-effects of estrogen therapy are widespread. According to Dr. Tim Murray, director of the metabolic bone clinic at St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto, some patients dislike the fact that HRT can result in the continuation of menstrual periods—in some cases, even among women in their 70s. Pa-

patients also worry about the growing evidence that HRT may increase their risk of developing breast cancer. But Dr. Alvin Tenenbaum, 61 director of the metabolic bone clinic at Mount Sinai General Hospital, says that women should balance the risks with the benefits. Women have a one-in-ten risk of developing breast cancer at some point after age 50. Based on the Harvard study, the risk increases to about 12 per cent for women who take estrogen. In Tenenbaum's opinion, that pales in comparison with the 30- to 35-per-cent risk of developing osteoporosis.

Barbara Curnether, a 77-year-old osteoporosis patient in Port Coquitlam, B.C., shares that view. Curnether, 77, had already lost more than 30 per cent of her bone mass and broken four vertebrae when she began treatment for the disease three years ago. Although estrogen, calcium supplements and regular exercise have helped her to rebuild some bone, she has lived in constant pain ever since. She cannot lift more than five pounds or bend over for fear of snapping another vertebra, and she has lost 35 inches from her five-foot, three-inch frame. "If I had had a chance between breast cancer and living through the pain I've had over the last few years," she says, "I would gladly have taken estrogen."

On the opposite side of the scientific debate are physicians such as Dr. Jennifer Price, head of endocrinology at the Vancouver Hospital Health Sciences Centre. The risks associated with HRT, Price maintains, are so serious that estrogen should be used only in special cases—for example, among women who already have low bone mass, women who experience severe hot flashes and women who have early menopause.

Price adds that there is some research suggesting that HRT may actually promote heart disease, as well as breast cancer. And she says that the basis of the research that suggests estrogen offers additional health benefits is unreliable, since the women in those studies were not compared with a control group of patients who were administered a placebo. At the National Institutes of Health, the long-awaited study to measure the benefits and adverse effects of estrogen therapy is currently under way. Until that study is released, Price says she will continue to favor a simple regimen of exercise and calcium to reduce the risk of osteoporosis in most women. Says Price, "I think a healthy lifestyle, which achieves good nutrition and exercise, can reduce the age-related bone loss that occurs in every older man and woman."

In the meantime, researchers are examining into a wide range of new therapies that may eventually make it easier to prevent and treat osteoporosis. Two early studies have shown that one of these drugs, raloxifene, offers most of the benefits of estrogen but does not promote cancer. The drug is in clinical trials across North America, and could be widely available within 10 years. Another medication, alendronate, has been shown to stop bone loss and is expected to be approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration within a year. Meanwhile, a recent study involving laboratory animals at the University of California at San Francisco appears to show that a naturally occurring hormone, parathyroid, can completely reverse bone loss caused by osteoporosis and make it four times less likely. All of these findings offer huge promise for sufferers of the disease—but for the time being, the debate over how best to prevent osteoporosis is unlikely to end.

Preventing osteoporosis: advice from the experts

The best way to avoid osteoporosis, specialists say, is to develop stronger and denser bones early in life. Some recommendations:

- Regular exercise should start at childhood, says Dr. David Hinman, chairman of the scientific advisory board of the Osteoporosis Society of Canada. Although it is unclear how much is sufficient, experts suggest at least half an hour of weight-bearing exercise—such as running, walking or tennis—three or four times a week.

- A diet containing adequate calcium is essential to ensuring a healthy skeleton and bone development. Adolescents and postmenopausal women have the greatest need for calcium. Most researchers say that teenagers should consume 1,200 to 1,400 mg a day, while women over age 50 need between 1,200 and 1,300 mg. Good sources of calcium include dairy products, broccoli,

caned salmon (if consumed with the bones), almonds and soybeans.

- Irregular menstrual cycles may indicate a deficiency of estrogen or progestin, causing decreased bone density. Women who have not started to menstruate by age 16, or who have not menstruated for more than three months, should see their doctor.

- Tobacco use and heavy consumption of alcohol or caffeine can increase the risk of osteoporosis. Experts recommend limiting alcohol consumption to no more than two drinks a day and caffeine to a maximum of three or four cups of coffee a day.

- A diagnostic tool known as bone mineral densitometry can help to detect bone loss in its early stages. Hinman recommends the procedure for women who are considering hormone replacement therapy.

A.I.



A KNOCKOUT FITNESS ROUTINE

Take a walk. Vancouver stockbroker Tim Ferris visits his athletic club, conveniently located in the same downtown building as his office. After changing his suit and tie, he strips and is off. Ferris is ready to work out. But while other club members are climbing aboard Spin Masters, computerized stationary bicycles and other high-tech fitness machines, Ferris spends the next hour engaged in a far more primal activity: pounding assault targets with his fists. Although he also lifts weights and plays soccer, Ferris is a convert to the sport of boxing who swears by his regular regimen of shadow-punching and older forms of high-impact cardiovascular exercise. "I'm lighter, my reflexes are quicker and it has built up my self-confidence," he says.

"But the thing I like most is that boxing is completely different from any workout I have tried before."

Its proponents call it the sweet science, and if the goal is a strong and fit body, few activities offer a more all-encompassing workout than boxing. Traditionally, pugilistic purists were left to those brave enough to enter intimidating, male-dominated gyms. In the past few years, however, an increasing number of men and women have begun to enjoy the health benefits of lacing up the leather and throwing power punches—without actually stepping into a ring. Although it is difficult to say exactly when boxing began to emerge as a fitness alternative for the masses, it is not difficult to understand why: in addition to its sensible benefits and emphasis on upper-body strength, boxing is an excellent way to relieve stress. Says What Matters instructor Mark Colino: "People from all walks of life are realizing how much they can benefit from the spills of the sport."

Nella Mays, a district manager with a Vancouver-based chain of fitness centres, first saw boxing presented as a fitness alternative several years ago, and says there are now "all sorts of different programs available."



What's (right) with client Bill DeLoach, Boxing has gone upscale

shop in an athletic club located in the heart of the city's business district. In a bright, mirrored room fitted with heavy bags and a quadrophonic sound system, Mays puts clients through training sessions similar to the ones Tim helped him with a brochure he'd made at the 1984 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles. Although Mays is best known for his work with rock stars and "hotter-than-hot" including Gino Odjick of the Vancouver Canucks—his program has received an overwhelming response from the corporate crowd. "I get a lot of professionals people looking for a new way to take their conditioning to the next level," says Mays.

The key to any successful fitness trend, according to Mays, is variety. "If you keep people interested, they will stick with the program." Steve Mata, a Toronto-based em-

ployee and fitness consultant, adds that standard aerobics classes have lost some of their appeal after years of popularity. "It's great to find a fresh and unique way to challenge the muscle fibres," she says. Mata borrows and borrows programs to incorporate training elements such as skipping the use of heavy bags and so-called job bags, and sparring sessions with an instructor. Bob Doon, a Toronto freelance instructor, even draws on his karate background by adding kicking to his classes. The result is a diverse and thorough exercising of virtually every major body part, along with an intense cardiovascular workload.

Boxing enthusiasts are similarly uncooperative in one respect. "It is one of the most rigorous sports I have ever experienced," says Jeff Bodnar, 33, an assistant manager with a life insurance company in Winnipeg. "After an hour and a half of almost punching," Bodnar says, "I feel like I've sweated 10 pounds." Doon says that, while in standard aerobics sessions, he can teach only a few boxing classes per day because each workout is "unbearably exhausting."

The effects of a quality boxing program may also extend beyond the realm of physical. Erica Cooper, 26, an office manager with a Vancouver investment dealer, says that although self-confidence was not the primary reason she took up boxing, she does feel a greater sense of self-confidence. "At four feet, 10 inches and 100 lbs., I can use all the help I can get."

Ruth Vesterback, a Halifax representative of the Canadian Aerobic Instructor Network, says most boxing programs give participants a sense of empowerment. "Most people don't know the inner power they possess until they find the instructors in an aggressive situation," she explains. Boxing is a two way to bring on that power."

Although an appeal differs from person to person, as a fitness trend boxing shows no sign of retreating to the corner of a basement. With its growing presence in amateur tournaments, athletic circuses and special fitness franchises across the country, boxing programs seem to be fulfilling the exercise needs of a demographic group that previously did a dismal little in the sport. "It's like, 'oh, it's like,'" says Leslie Ross, 22, a corporate lawyer from Vancouver. "It was so weird sitting there with pictures of Rocky taped to the wall. I probably wouldn't be doing this." But Mark Colino, Ross says there are few things more satisfying after a grueling day at the office than punctuating a heavy leather bag.

JOHN CRUZ is a Researcher

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CALENDAR

Tall ships and tennis, plus a hefty slice of medieval life

BRITISH COLUMBIA

July 24-26 *4* Vancouver Chamber Music Festival Some of the world's leading young instrumentalists perform music ranging from baroque to contemporary.

Aug. 7-12 *Horizon Arts Festival*, West Vancouver A free showcase for visual, musical, dance and theatre arts, and crafts in waterfront parks and storefronts, and featuring more than 300 local artists, musicians and artisans.

ALBERTA
July 24-26 *4* Kinsmen Days, Edmonton The city re-enacts the goldrush days of the 1880s with a parade, a King of the Kinsmen competition, art races and bathhouse races.

Aug. 22-29 *International Native Arts Festival*, Calgary Performances by native dancers and musicians will be held in the Glenbow Museum and an encampment set up along the Stampede Avenue Mall. Spectators are also welcome to attend walkabouts at circus making, art workshops and native culture.

SASKATCHEWAN

Aug. 4-7 *4* Folkfest, Saskatoon More than 70 international companies on nine stages, accompanied by street bands and a craft fair.

MANITOBA

Aug. 6-9 *4* Folklorama, Winnipeg An annual celebration of the city's ethnic diversity, with 34 groups showcasing the



Sparklers of
Fire display
in Toronto
night and noon!

A BLOOMING BUSINESS

For centuries, fireworks have provided a crowd-pleasing finale to all kinds of celebrations, from royal weddings to national days. Roman candles and mortars exploded over Ottawa on July 1, 1887, and they have remained a fixture of Canadian summers ever since. But the idea of a fireworks display simply for its own sake is relatively recent. So is the notion of trying to synchronize the pyrotechnics with a musical sound track. George Prud'homme Heriot composed Music for the Royal Fireworks in 1749 to mark the peace treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, but that celebration turned into a fiasco when a quibble among the staff resulted in the premature explosion on the ground instead of the stocks.

In 1865, musical fireworks came to Montreal with the first Symphony of Fire international fireworks competition, sponsored by the Benson & Hedges tobacco company. The Symphony was passed enormously popular, expediting to Vancouver and Toronto and attracting a combined six million spectators in 1884. In the competi-

tions, private manufacturers representing their home countries each present an evening's 25-minute display before combining their talents in a grand finale. Judges evaluate the productions for color, design, synchronization of sound and sight, and what is known as the display's "independence"—how it looks at low, medium and high altitudes. In Vancouver, where the competition opens July 29, the contestants are Pauli, Italy (last year's winner and home to the oldest fireworks tradition in the West) and China, where pyrotechnics originated more than 1,000 years ago.

Safety features also have improved significantly since Heriot's day. The massive 300-foot tower that served as a lifting base is covered with 60,000 tons of sand and anchored hundreds of feet offshore. Electric fuses, not open flames, ignite the rockets. And the technicians are safely encased in a reinforced bunker. As long as they can refrain from arguing among themselves, the show goes on.

the Broadway
Spider Woman
festival continues
Aug. 19-20 Cycle Messenger World
Championship, Lamont Stadium, Toronto U.S. and Canadian bicycle
competitors compete in numerous races and contests.

QUEBEC
July 29-30 Just For Laughs, Montreal Hailed as the world's largest comedy event, the festival expects to attract more than 400,000 spectators to almost 500 live performances in the GM Place. Among this year's acts: Garry Shandling, Michael Richards, who plays Kramer on the hit sitcom *Seinfeld*.

July 25-26 *4* Mauleur Lef! Open, Jarry Town Centre, Montreal Canada's international arena's chara-coupling features some of the world's best, including Andre Agassi, Pete Sampras and Boris Becker. Also due to play is Greg Rusedski, in his first return to his home province since he aban-

doned Tennis Canada to represent Britain.

ONTARIO
July 14-22 Ottawa International Jazz Festival Music ranging from traditional to avant-garde is offered outdoors and in the National Arts Centre. There will also be

NEW BRUNSWICK
Aug. 1-10 Festival by the Sea, Saint John. Dedicated to Canadian performing arts, this year's lineup includes everything from a Calgary R&B band to a Ukrainian dance troupe from Manitoba and a host of East Coast groups.

Suspense: Montreal hosts some of the world's best

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
Aug. 4-6 Annual Highland Games, Lord Selkirk Provincial Park, Eidsen. Playing, dancing and traditional athletes competition, complemented by concerts and performances.

NOVA SCOTIA
July 21-24 Maritime '88 Four Centuries of Salt, Sill, Salt. A fleet of tall ships will sail the harbor and berths along the waterfront at the first of seven Atlantic Canada ports. Members of the public are invited to attend the pageant.

NEWFOUNDLAND
Aug. 4 Royal St. John's Regatta, North America's oldest continuous sporting event, held at Quidi Vidi Lake annually since 1861. As many as 800 spectators are invited to cheer on 200 participants in four-day racing races.

YUKON
July 23-25 Dawson City Music Festival. Under the sunsets of northern singer Nancy White, the 15th annual showcase of acts from across North America ranges from P.E.I. singer Lucy Ballantyne to Vida Hilde, an alternative jazz singer from Vancouver.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
July 18-21 Folk at the Rockies, Yoho Lodge. A handful of northern performers join a truly eclectic group of northern musicians, including Inuit throat singers, acrobatic player John (Blatford) Marion and the Sons of Thunder, a heavy metal group that performs songs in Digriff.

NEXT

A sampling of upcoming diversions

MOVIES

Waterworld Kevin Costner's reputation will sink or swim on the tide of this bloated epic about a flooded planet.

Double Happiness Vancouver's Sandra Oh won a Golden Globe for her portrayal of a Chinese-Canadian daughter at odds with her parents.

Virtuosity Dennis Washington and Kelly Lynch co-star in a virtual-ready thriller.

Something to Talk About Julia Roberts plays the headstrong wife of an adulating husband (Dennis Quaid).

VIDEO

Before Sunrise Wonderfully intimate between Julie Delpy and Ethan Hawke is a tale of two travelers spending a night in Vienna. *Mani Ratrayada* Sarah Jessica Parker and Mira Sorvino perform a witty, Woody-Allenish comedy about beautiful spouses. *Death and the Maiden* Roman Polanski directs Sigourney Weaver as a Latin American torture witness confronting her past.

Carrie Jamie Lee Curtis gives her final performance in a Canadian pageant of contorted whimsy.

BOOKS

My Timer: Living with History 1747-1894 Pierre Boitron (Doublay), the author recalls his journalistic days as a journalist and broadcaster.

City Life: Urban Expectations in a New World Wold Rybcyzk (Hyperion). The renowned Canadian architectural writer offers commentary on metropolitan life.

Garden Voices: Two Centuries of Canadian Garden Writing Edwina von Bayrer and Pleasant Crawford (Random House). An anthology celebrating the country's intrinsic gardeners, strong contemporary voices, and older masters, including a diary from 1792.

The Great Gatsby: The High-Wire Life of William Hart Shaw Peacock (Penguin). A memoir of a 19th-century Canadian adventurer, showman and inventor.

AUDIO

Tunes of Boring: The Songs of Leonard Cohen (Milk Peter Gabriel, Billy Joel, Bruce Springsteen, Bruce Hornsby, and others pay tribute to Canada's post laureate of popular song).

The Medieval Experience Various artists (Polygram). Ancient music is a surprisingly remunerative popular genre, and this four-disc collection seems likely to add to Medieval Ages' *Hot House* Bruce Hornsby. The medieval song writer recruits some stellar colleagues—including Jerry Garcia and Paul McCrory—for his latest jazz-folk take of America.

Milk Duds: The Complete Lives of the Plugged Nickel, 1981 (Song). A much-anticipated set of eight CDs featuring the legendary bluesman at a legendary Chicago club.



COHEN



CHANNELLING TALENT

Cook relaxing, or doing just in the background

Canadian bluesie guitarist Jesse Cook has experienced firsthand the power of television. Over the past 11 years, he has earned a solid reputation composing and performing music for such diverse clients as the *Devourers* (dance

and The *Tempo*—based Cook, 36, says that being in the spotlight is a new experience for him. "I am overwhelmed that someone I don't know—who isn't family or a friend—would actually go out and buy my CD."

ADVENTURES IN WRITING BOOKS

While David is living such a colorful life that it belongs in a work of fiction because an official photographer for Martin Luther King, and his work in a photograph brought him into contact with millenarians and mafiosi. But in 1975, on his 50th birthday, Debl's decided that it was time to do something he had always deserved: *doing*—with a novel. "I thought how was running out," he said about his first foray into fiction. That book, *Steady's Millions*, quickly became both a best seller and a hit movie starring Burt Reynolds. Now 20 years later, the Gaspésien Debl has released his seventh novel, *Slow of Exit*, a psychological thriller. "Writing books is always an adventure for me," says Debl, who, unlike many authors, does not sketch out his plots in advance. Debl concludes, "The characters might just turn around and do something that I didn't expect and shock the hell out of me."

BEING SEEN AND HEARD

Although he has become a celebrity through his role as Det. Macleod Lewis in the Emmy Award-winning *Home Rule: Life on the Street*, Clark Johnson still enjoys working behind the scenes. Johnson, in his fourth season on the NBC series, spent his



Johnson: putting feet to flying things up on screen

MAKING EVERY DAY MAGICAL

Born under Queen Elizabeth II, she has known real life for her lifetime. She trained her first children to walk, she loaded the laundry in the cupboard, an older sister who told the youngest of their three sons, "Once, after he asked who had given her an old wooden cupcake for a birthday present, in the 1981 book—and the movie version (opposite) this year—she poses as a present. Canadian 70-year-old actress Helen Mirren, discovered that it there—right by chance—she placed in the stage-based hat some magically real. The *Love*—born Mirren says that it is not surprising she made the toy an instant rather than something more typically English such as a knight or a parrot: "from a gas 10 to 15 she lived in Gloucester as a 'war girl'" during the Sec-



ond World War. "I was the heyday of the big Hollywood winters, and I was always on the side of the Indians," says Mirren, who recently returned to *Seabiscuit* for the first time in 30 years for a reunion of *Midwest* Collegiate high school. "But my kids were brought up in Israel and Britain, so they had no idea about the West I made up the stories to teach them." From the mouths of mamas

examiner break filming the action-adventure movie *Nick of Time*, with Johnny Depp Johnson, 39, also worked as a special-effects expert on several recent films, including *Earthquake* 3. "I know that people think that when you get some success on screen you are supposed to stop doing crew stuff," says Johnson. "But the way I look at it, I don't get to have things go as an action. In special effects, they pay me for it."

Written by
BARBARA WICKENS

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A novel of ideas

An actor hams it up as prime minister

THE AGE OF IMPROV

By Keri Soltau
ChappelCade, 248 pages \$20

Rich Soltau is the sort of writer who gives readers a good name. Best known recently for his regular column in *The Globe and Mail*, he is one of the few opinion writers in the country who assume as though he is actually writing as he writes. Certainly, he has his biases (left-leaning, anti-capitalist, environmental), but he is free from many of the clichés of the easy rhetorician and preening that so often go with an ideological position. Soltau writes novels, too, and they tend to share the writerly, thoughtfulness of his columns. His first, *A Man of Little Faith*, won the 1989 W. H. Smith/Books in Canada Best Novel Award. Now in his terrific second novel, *The Age of Dugout*, Soltau focuses his attention on one of his favorite topics: the relationship between politics and the Canadian public.

It has to be said that Soltau is not a natural novelist. He can sketch in a character well enough—but he then has difficulty giving it a life of its own. And *The Age of Dugout* has a plot that creates like overused bed-springs. Indeed, it is less a novel than a series of little essays in conversation with one another. But, for all that, the book is packed with insight, humor and a peculiar quality of intellectual playfulness that becomes almost a charm in its own right.

The Age of Dugout tells the story of a middle-aged actor, Matthew Denes, and his unlikely adventures in politics. Unlike another auto-politician, Ronald Reagan, who as president of the United States was said to have difficulty grasping the finer points of policy, Matthew is square. But—again unlike Reagan—Matthew has become increasingly ineffective since the free-trade deals of the Mulroney era. His last touch of power in international trade blocs and corporations. As well, the health care system has collapsed and the school system is still rising. When Matthew runs for Parliament, he writes an unusual note by refusing to talk about politics. Instead, drawing on his experiences in the States and Soviets as an impressionable boy, he rummages through thoughts about his own life. With the help of a renegade TV station owner (based, it would seem on Max Baucus of Vancouver City TV and MuchMusic), he videotapes his performances and broadcasts them nationally. A paged public response enthusiastically to his apparent candor. Under a new system of quo-

ta-proportional representation, Matthew ends up controlling seven seats and the balance of power in the new Parliament. Not long after, the usual horse-trading at compromise politics makes him prime minister.

Matthew's preposterous career allows Soltau to skillfully balance his vision between satire and realism. At times, Matthew seems a deeply concerned citizen—and at others a bantering curmudgeon who as not determined his last cabinet meeting in discussing which pictures will hang on the wall. Those two aspects of Matthew help Soltau to express both his own passion about the importance of politics and his despair about whether, within the current framework, anything of importance can be accomplished. Certainly, Matthew manages to do very little as prime minister. He does have a referendum with a question as philosophically complicated ("Is human solidarity the basis of our behavior towards each other?") that many voters spot their ballot by scribbling incoherencies on them. In the end, this sends many voters to the polls. But the referendum also allows Soltau to put forward one of his principal points: that people are hungry for a true, public life that would allow them to shape the conditions of their society.

The Age of Dugout itself feels like an attempt to use a rapid train of one-dimensional scenes. Soltau tries to introduce characters whose obsessions allow him to explore topics of interest—here, the nature of acting, the meaning of public opinion—but often he drops these figures who has his intellectual interest fades. That makes for a rather broken narrative, and even characters such as Matthew's daughter, Dahl, whose death from an AIDS-like illness is supposed to bring a certain human pathos to the story, hardly leave an impression.

No innovation can be any better than the culture from which it comes. If The Age of Dugout lacks a certain unity, perhaps it is only reflecting the scattered nature of the times. Even so, a few of its themes do persist more strongly than others. One is Soltau's concern that Canada's tradition of collective action is responsible for its decline, the CSC and so on being destroyed by the ravages of American-style capitalist individualism. In the novel, this danger is dramatized by an American plot to seize over Canada as it falls to pieces. What is tragic, then, that The Age of Dugout was greatest and loudest in the United States. Soltau should write a column about that.

JOHN BROMFORD



Soltau: despair about whether politics can accomplish anything

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Photo: 1992

BOOKS



Time to grow up

LOVE, PAIN AND THE WHOLE DAMN THING: HOW TO REAP THE REWARDS OF ADULTHOOD AND FIND REAL HAPPINESS By David Leibow

W.W. Norton, 302 pages, \$25.95

allowable phase that begins with physical maturity and our longer life into the 40s, the 50s and perhaps beyond—largely unexplored. According to Leibow, adulthood is stuck assigned as a joyless, predictable plateau that ends each in stained scutty. That the opposite is true, he maintains. And it need not be approached with a grim sense of responsibility. “When we get old enough to have sexual intercourse, we don’t stop having,” he writes. “When we get serious about life, we don’t lose our sense of humor.”

The quality of adulthood depends on our much childlike capacity for fun and enjoyment, con says. A graduate of Maimonides University Medical School in New York, Leibow is one of many who have traded the much-hailed private practice in Toronto for his return to Canada in 1980 after a six-year teaching stint at Columbia University in New York City. Most of his patients have shared the same affliction—depression. And to Leibow’s growing concern, he has found that many of them are “burned out.”

“A burnout concept, adulthood. To many enlightened post-pubescent, the natural inclination is an acerbic, hyperbolic shadow littered with a shocking array of self-help books encouraging childhood self-help genius. But the 45-year-old, Manhattan-based psychiatrist has latched onto a somewhat novel idea. Although experts have produced a deluge of research on childhood and adolescence, the tradition to adulthood—that we won’t be half way,” writes Leibow. “We want to enjoy the perks and privileges of adult

hood, yet retain access to the era of innocence and freedom of childhood.”

The first, and central, step in becoming an adult is reexamining the old parent-child relationship and its tired catalogue of books, dependency and boasting. “One of the subtler and most pernicious forms of dependency is the holding of old complaints,” writes Leibow. “By keeping track of the woes our parents have told us, we hope that we’ll be able to relieve them for it soothes us in the future. Then, if they can’t make us happy when we present them with the bill, they will at least feel properly reimbursed.” An older man abhors the romantic notion of all major happiness. “We will never recuperate the state of bliss that we felt, although we feel, when we were very, very young,” Leibow contends.

“It is this painful realization—the collision of history and reality—that precipitates the crisis of preadulthood.”

These are hardly reassuring thoughts. The sceptic of Oedipal fixation finds her back flat. Freud. And much of Leibow’s thesis—the sanctity of monogamy, marriage and work—reflects conservative family values in a dark. Meanwhile, the author seems to have been aware whatever to target the book in his psychiatric peers at the general public. That dilemma is evident in *Love*. This work from dry clinical observation to colorful anecdotes and occasionally, yet well. But the thrust of Leibow’s argument rarely arrives. The wiser people become, he argues, the less likely they are to be blown about. Like a raft on the ocean, by impulses and emotions. “To journey to paradise,” he writes, “being stable does not make life bearing, it makes life manageable.”

The reward is apparently worth the effort. Adulthood is not bestowed. To Leibow, it is a *longing*—one that “in a crystalline moment of self-realization—when a person gains from living like a kid to living like an adult.” Then, just as when you learned to ride a bicycle, the unending feelings of balance and uncertainty give way for adulthood give way to unhesitating feelings of pleasure and competence. He writes: “Leibow’s own treatment came about in 1985 after an enchanting week of training to practice. ‘I was out to dinner and I felt old—shoddily put in a full week, of doing what I trained for,’ he says. ‘I knew right away that I had learned it’s course.’ And since then, Leibow cautions, no culture sporting adult can ever go back.”

E. KAYE FULTON

Damsels and distress

In three movies, men chase a mother, a creature and a queen

NINE MONTHS

Directed by Chris Columbus

Hugh Grant has built his career on nervous charm. He comes across as a bumbling schoolboy with an over-sensitive disposition. And there is nothing he does better than express embarrassment. In *Four Weddings and a Funeral*, he was famously reduced to a state of stammering, apologetic humor. After Grant's recent arrest in Los Angeles for having sex in a car with a hooker, you can just picture him trying to explain himself to his girlfriend, the blonde Elizabeth Hurley. "I'm explaining," he would say, "I'm not even sure what that encounter

Not even Woody Allen and Diane have had such good resonance with a scoundrel surrounding his star. In *Nine Months*, Grant plays Serafin, a man who has everything: a red Porsche, a healthy Sea Pomeranian house and a woman that has stayed along smoothly for five years. But Serafin has a chronic fear of commitment. When his girlfriend, Rebecca (Julianne Moore), announces that she is pregnant, he panics—and his callous behavior prompts her to leave him. Trying to win her back, Serafin pleads for forgiveness. "I've thrown away the most important thing in my life just like that," he says. "It was a diagnosis. I now know what a mistake I was."

Ironically, the libertine may of Grant's role zones some critics, but they are soon dispelled by his belly-laugh. The movie was written and directed by Holly wood's Chryse Casheur, the maker of *Mrs. Doubtfire* and the *How About comedies*. This is an Elmer-look who knows how to push all the right buttons. Retaking *Nine Months* from the French film *Un Nouvel An* (1999), he has created a fully loaded *Laurel and Hardy* farce. Going through wild mood swings, the trimster narrative grows from romantic comedy to sonic comedy to fat-suit shenanigan in an instant sort of sentiment.

Contrived though it may be, *Nine Months* delivers. It has some great cameos performances. Purchasing the end of Grant's British reserve is Tim Arnold, who plays an efficient car dealer named Mark, the father of three brooding children. His wife (Don Cheadle), who is expecting a fourth, becomes Rebecca's all in pregnancy. Jeff Goldblum is wonderfully droll as Serafin's best friend, a bletcher artist and Robin Williams predictably steals the picture as an absentminded son of a bitch.



Moore (left), Grant: a man's remorse with the actor's arrival

There is a clear division of labor among the cast: the men look around the country, the women another the man. The man of the film, Mark and Cossie play it straight, defending motherhood while the women act like. In the child-rearing scenes that seethe in the movie's climax, however, everyone goes giddily over the top. It looks like a *Mad Max* car ride through San Francisco. And by the time the crew reaches the hospital, Nine Months has forced us to care. On Doctor Who is remarkable, how Columbus sequences both scenes of terror and tiny-eyed drama out of the same scenario—a miracle of birth indeed!

Like Hugh Grant, Nine Months takes its share of drab details: a certain cringe factor sets in. This is, after all, a romantic comedy about a hero who falls in love—not with his wife, but with his unborn child. Yet once the comedy takes off, Nine Months has an irresistible charm.

SPECIES

Directed by Roger Donaldson

In *Nine Months*, Hugh Grant's character dreams that his pregnant mate turns into a giant, graying apatosaurus and devours him in bed. Serafin panics that for any—the male is at the new, relative female—a a literal level. It is a scifi thriller about an alien predator who takes the form of a shambling bland named Sil (Barbara Dennerlein, a 38-year-old fashion model born in Newfoundland and raised in Alberta). Sil is a creature, created by scientists who introduced some DNA from outer space into a human egg. They made her female, hoping she would be more docile. Fat chance. Sil escapes and grows up to be a T-Rex-like with a Freudian kiss that can leave a hole in a man's head. Her Frailenstein-like creator (Barry Shabot) assembles a team to hunt her down—including us as Marine (Michael Madsen) and an arachnologist (Alfred Molina).

On the loose in Los Angeles, Sil is determined to mate, and discovers that baring her breasts speeds up the process. She is a female fiend who turns into a hideous creature faster than you can say "computer modeling." It is fun for a while. Australian director Roger Donaldson delivers some good jobs, and jobs. But a weak script leaves the strong cast floundering. And as the story degenerates into an amateur kill-the-bitch climax, *SPECIES* proves to be a retrograde experiment in the evolution of the genre.



Guinevere and Gere: a king and a knight fight for the queen's love

FIRST KNIGHT

Directed by Jerry Zucker

It is the latest entry in the summer tournament of broadsword epics, after the failed overkill of *Rob Roy* and *Beowulf*. And it is by far the most feeble. *First Knight* is ostensibly based on the legend of King Arthur and his Round Table. The filmmakers, however, have gutted the original legend and renovated Camelot to the point where it is barely recognizable.

The movie's Lancelot (Richard Gere) is not even a knight when he meets Queen Guinevere (Julia Ormond). He is a vagabond nature boy,

a natural who roams the forests and lives by his wits. Like some medieval *Warrior*, he leers popping out of the bushes to rescue Guinevere from a suddenly bad guy. What impresses her most is a trick that he does: add a tree, change the water through a forest of leaves, change another woods. Thus Lancelot the *Green Man* on a white horse, a ferociously logical legend for the 1990s. One day he finally reaches the Round Table. He never seems comfortable in the stinking arena.

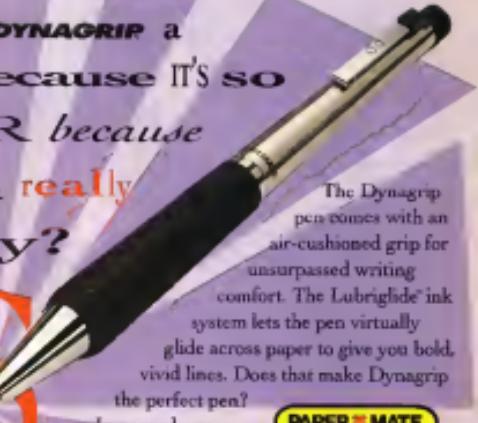
As King Arthur (John Cusack), Sean Connery pretends over his Camelot, which seems as drowsy and unconvincing as a Disney theme park. Strangely, there is no mention of Merlin. Played cross-eyed and Mac the castle is a spectacular sight, but a little elaborate for the sixth century—it's as though the film's computer graphics team could not stop letting the "magic" continue. The knightly combat uniforms campaign up visions of *Star Trek*, and Arthur's medieval Round Table would not look out of place on the bridge of the Enterprise. At its core, *First Knight* is a surreal fiasco, suggesting that Fred Astaire's liberal-artsocratic Camelot owes as much to the *Monty Python* legacy as to the Arthurian legend.

All of this fantastical mythology would be forgettable if the movie worked. But film editor Jerry Zucker (*Ghost*) directs in a plodding, pedestrian style. The lavish battle scenes are a confusion of cutaways. The villains, a dark knight called Maligad (Ben Cross) who lives in a kind of hot cage, is a hideous hairy Gere, acting with a nonchalant sort of an accent, shrewdly sniffs through his scenes. Guinevere looks as if she would rather be anywhere else. As Guinevere, a queen torn between her knight and her king, Ormond gives the movie's one spiced performance. Meanwhile, the Wyvern for John Gielgud is briefly cut out for no apparent reason—although, at this erratic epic, her title serves as the only connection to true knight-hood.

BRIAN D. JOHNSON

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